WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 5 | THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION | SEPTEMBER 1999

"Identifyng ways we participate in the perpetuation of white supremacy, of racist domination expands our potential for intervention and transformation. . . it enables us to see that we are a collective, that we can be a community of resistance." bell hooks

Check It Out!

Olympia's Annual Labor Day Event

Frank Hoffman

Labor Day was first organized in this country in 1882 by the New York City Central Labor Union, part of the larger Knights of Labor, as a celebration of workers and their skills. It was a big parade and a party patterned after such events in Europe, where many of the New York workers had been born.

In the factory town where I grew up, Labor Day was celebrated by a huge fireworks display put on by one of the towns big employers, Endicott-Johnson Shoes, in the large park the company had given to the city.

Olympia celebrates Labor Day at Sylvester Park with speeches and music, activities for kids and informational tabling by unions and other organizations. Check it out!

Workers in this country, women and men, were beaten, imprisoned and killed when they formed labor unions in pursuit of some respect and better working conditions. Workers risked their lives to curtail child labor and create the weekend. Who did these workers struggle against?

Most of us are workers and workers most of our lives. Women who work at home never stop working.

Of course that same struggle still goes on: ask any farmworker. Labor Day, though, is not a political holiday, like May Day, the Made in America workers' day celebrated around the world.

Labor Day marks the end of summer - notice the avalanche of ads for back-to-school stuff. Alot of people go to the celebration at Sylvester Park. Not enough!

Most of us are workers and workers most of our lives. Women who work at home never stop working.

Workers came here from Europe, Mexico, Asia, from all over the globe, in the hope of a better life. Except the Africans brought here in chains, in a horror I don't want to imagine. People proud to work. People wanting to get ahead, to create better lives for their children. We killed or pushed aside the aboriginal people. And we worked for wages.

Everyone who works for a wage is a worker. Whether you build cars, houses, cut beans, mow hay, wipe butts, dance on tables, polish floors or play the clarinet. State workers are workers. Brewery workers are workers. Carpenters are workers. Homemakers are workers (despite their low wages.) We have so much in common, so much to share; we need to look into each others faces and recognize this, celebrate this. And ignore all those who want us to compete with each other, fight with each other. Whether they run companies or labor

(Continued page 14)

Thurston's Garbage Becomes Roosevelt's Responsibility

Hawks Prairie Landfill Closing

Tom Gilbert

Thurston County's Hawks Prairie Landfill, having consumed almost 90 square acres, is near full and will begin transferring garbage to Roosevelt Landfill in Klickitat County by May 2000. Roosevelt Landfill, with a capacity of 120 million tons over 915 acres, will receive about 350 tons, an average of fifteen 27-ton truckloads, of garbage from Hawks Prairie per day. This marks Thurston County's participation in growing trends that result in and from the closing of landfills. We must assess how we can minimize our waste, but also what our role in the larger scheme is; what does the closure of a landfill and the shipping of waste away from its source actually mean?

Not only does a transnational corporation have little amenability to local residents, but they can import whatever waste materials they choose to (pending the facility's permits). . .

Landfills are notorious for contaminating ground water and land, and threatening nearby residential health through the release of leachate tainted with an assortment of chemicals. The leachate from "non-hazardous" landfills has often been found to be equally as toxic as "hazardous" landfills, not due to the individual items received, but as a result of many different chemicals mixing. The EPA, who establishes landfill regulations, stated that "even the best liner and leachate collection system will ultimately fail...and recent improvements in...containment technologies suggest that releases may be delayed," later noting that "the bottom layer of the landfill...will not prevent leachate transport out of the unit."

The landfill company is legally responsible if leaks occur, however the burden extends into the surrounding community - a hazard increasingly being distributed from one community to another. This distribution most often follows the advice that "Middle and higher socioeconomic strata neighborhoods should not fall at least within...[a] five mile radii of the purposed site" given to waste management companies by Los Angeles consulting firm Cerrell Associates. Race often presents an even more predominant siting factor. The study *Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States* reported "that people of color [are] twice as likely to live in communities with a commercial hazardous waste facility and three times as likely to live near a large landfill or multiple waste facilities."

The transfer of Thurston County waste does not necessarily follow these biases (although 72% and 32% of Klickitat households make less than $35,000 and $15,000 respectively), but the resale of responsibility remains. If the landfill is in our community we would make sure our municipality maintained the facility responsibly. The same level of community accountability can not be insure when waste becomes a commodity and the waste "management" company is not local. Rebanco Disposal Company, contracted for Thurston County's annual 300,000 tons of garbage, is owned by Allied Industries, an Arizona corporation. Not only does a transnational corporation have little amenability to local

(Continued page 18)

Thurston County Voters Choose Alternative to the Death Penalty

by Glen Anderson

A scientific survey of Thurston County voters found that public support for the death penalty drops drastically when people are offered practical alternatives.

This survey--like so many others--found that about 73% of the public say they support the death penalty when given a simple choice of support/oppose. However, asking the questions in this way gives people the choice between soemthing and nothing: no alternative solution is offered. This survey gave a sample of 160 Thurston County voters a choice between the death penalty and life in prison without any chance of parole (LWOP). With this alternative, support for the death penalty dropped from 73% to 55%. The survey also gave the option of LWOP and working in prison to earn money for restitution for the victim's family. With this alternative, only 39% of Thurston County voters chose the death penalty instead of this option.

These findings are comparable to surveys that have asked about these options of people in other parts of the country. Surveys conducted from 1986 to 1991 in Florida, New York, California, Mississippi, and Nebraska likewise found that apparent support for the death penalty is based on failing to offer alternatives. In each of those states, scientific surveys show fewer than half of the people surveyed would choose the death penalty when offered the alternative of LWOP plus restitution.

The lesson seems to be that public support for the death penalty seems overwhelming only when realistic alternatives are not offered. The typical, simplistic yes/no surveys consistently report 70%-75% support for the death penalty. News media and politicians accept those simplistic surveys at face value and make knee-jerk decisions based on them. However, the issues -- and people's thoughts and feelings about the issues -- are much more complex than that. Public decision-makers have a responsibility to explore these more thor-

(Continued page 16)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number. Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, wip@ olywa.net

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Olympia Timberland Library. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Dave Campbell	Wendy Ortiz
Sebastian Chase	Hali Panneton
Renee Cruickshank	Tara Perkins
Megan Davis	Jeff Sowers
Frank Hoffman	Marie Smith
Teresa Jennings	Sylvia Smith
Jerome Johnson	Chris Stegman
Margaret Love	Pat Tassoni
Evelyn Montague	Alice Zillah

Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Governing Tool:

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

Friday, Sept. 17th

Proofreading Meeting

Tuesday, September 28th
6:30pm at Olympia Library
Everyone Welcome!

PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
phone/fax (360) 705-2726
wip@olywa.net

Advertising Info

→ Tara Perkins at 956-9256

→ Wendy Ortiz at 705-2726

Inch Rate $7.50
Business Card $25.00*
5" X 5" $75.00

4 Months for the price of 3

Special Non-Profit Rates

Letters & Briefs

Support Local Revolutionary Mark Cook

Dear Friends and Comrades,

Hello, we are Washington Prison Project, a group of prison activists dedicated to ending the injustices of the penal system in this country. To further our struggle, we are raising funds to support political prisoner Mark Cook. Mark is an African American political prisoner in the state of Washington, currently at Monroe State Penitentiary, thirty minutes from Seattle.

Mark is being paroled in the next six months after spending the last twenty-three years in prison. He deserves to come out to the welcome arms of community activists and a minimal trust fund to draw from. There are no social security or community programs to make easier the transition to the world outside of physical prison walls.

Why should you give money to Mark Cook? Well, the people who are most likely to support Mark are not the rich oil tycoons or Microsoft Millionaires; Mark was and is a hero of the working class and therefore someone who we need to support. He has spent twenty-three years in prison for a conviction whose average sentence is seven years. During this period of time he has worked hard to improve the conditions inside prison by working as a jailhouse lawyer and a certified conflict mediator. As laws, penalties, and sentences become stricter and more unreasonable, the activism you do is either illegal or soon to be illegal. Many of us could be and have been to prison for the activism we all are doing right now and doubtless we would want financial support during and after our sentences. Help make this type of fundraising a tradition in Seattle by contributing to Mark's fund.

Washington Prison Project is a fully volunteer organization and all checks are written directly to Mark Cook and will be given to him immediately upon his release (currently the state of Washington takes 35% of all money given to prisoners while incarcerated). Please support this local revolutionary as he emerges from the prison system. He has made tremendous sacrifices and deserves to be honored for his contribution to the revolution.

Our goal is $5000. What can you contribute? Please send checks made out to Mark Cook to: Washington Prison Project, PO Box 14361,Seattle, WA 98144. If you would like this donation to be tax deductible, please call 206/324-8615 or 206/324-8647 and ask for Ronica or Scott.

Thank You

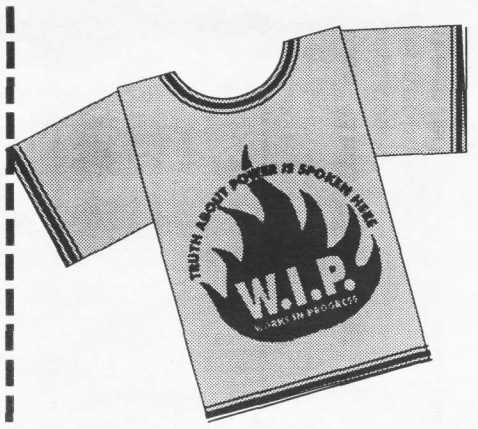
Freedom Socialist Party National Convention. Friday-Monday, September 3-6, 1999 at the Longhouse, Evergreen State College, Olympia. Start the 21st century with a fresh perspective by attending the FSP National Convention. Convention-goers will grapple with how best to fulfill the challenge that African Amercian revolutionary Mumia Abu-Jamal issued to Evergreen's 1999 graduating class—to live in "opposition to the deadening status quo." Milestone discussion topics to include: eyewitness account of Canadians opposing rightward turn by New Democrats and Australian workers best the wharf bosses; Russians battle market-induced misery; lessons from the socialist feminist campaign trail in five states; people of color, immigrants, women, youth and queers spark militancy from union organizing to fighting fascists; and the urgent need for international left cooperation. Join us for a weekend of dynamic analysis aimed at building a movement to replace decrepit capitalism with the shared abundance of socialism! Registration opens Th. Sept. 2 at 4pm and 9am daily thereafter. Cost is $35.00 for 4 days or $10 per day; FSP and RW members are $30.00. On site childcare must be arranged before Aug. 15 with FSP National Office. For more info, call 206/722-2453 or Email <fspnatl@igc.org>.

Works In Progress seeks interns!

Help create the monthly radical newspaper you hold in your hands. WIP has been around for nearly 10 years and seeks people who would like to see it live longer, improve it, and also learn about community journalism. Volunteer posi-

(Continued page 18)

Subscription Form



Make A Statement

(all sizes available)

- o **Subscription . . . $25**
  - o **Please mail *WIP* to me**
- o **Donation - $ _____**
- o **Tee-Shirt . . . $15 each; # _____ size(s)_____**
- o **Catalog/Index Listing...$1; back issues...$1/each**

Support Progressive Journalism

If the corporations aren't paying for it, then you have to!

- o **Individual Sustainer ... $35** o **Family Sustainer...$45**
- o **Organizational/Business Sustainer ... $100**
- o **Prisoner Sponsor (sent to inmate) ... $10**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Send to: Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507

The Capitol Theater in Downtown Olympia

Olympia FILM SOCIETY

To receive a program or get information about shows, show times, locations, and prices call 754-6670.

SOUTH SOUND GREEN PAGES

South Sound's Monthly Environmental Newspaper

Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.

209 East 4th Ave., Suite 206
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 786-6349
speech@olywa.net www.olywa.net/speech

SEPTEMBER 1999

Shifting Fortunes

→ **Since the mid-1970s, the top 1 percent of households have doubled their share of the national wealth. The top 1 percent of households now have more wealth than the entire bottom 95 percent.**

→ **The inflation-adjusted net worth of the median household fell from $54,600 in 1989 to $49,900 in 1997. Nearly 1 out of 5 households have zero or negative net worth, an increase from the 1980s.**

→ **Weekly wages for average workers in 1998 were 12 percent below 1973, adjusting for inflation. Productivity grew nearly 33 percent in the same period.**

→ **Almost 90 percent of the value of all stocks and mutual funds owned by households is held by the richest 10 percent. An estimated 86 percent of the benefits of the increase in the stock market between 1989 and 1997 went to the top 10 percent of households, with 42 percent going to the richest 1 percent..**

→ **With mortgage interest rates at low levels, the U.S. home ownership rate hit a record 66 percent in 1998, but for people under age 55, home ownership rates were actually lower in 1998 than in 1982.**

→ **Families have sunk deeper into debt. Household debt as a percentage of personal income rose from 58 percent in 1973 to an estimated 85 percent in 1997.**

→ **Between 1983 and 1995, the inflation-adjusted net worth of the top 1% swelled by 17%. The bottom 40% of households lost an astounding 80% of net worth. The middle 1/5 of Americans lost over 11%. Only the top 5% gained any net worth.. The top 5% have more than 60% of all household wealth.**

→ **The median black household had a net worth of just $7,400 in 1995-about 12 percent of the $61,000 in median wealth for whites. Median black financial wealth was just $200-a mere 1 percent of the $18,000 in median financial wealth for whites.**

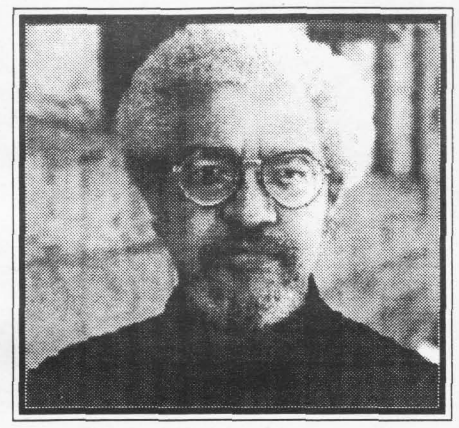
→ **The median Hispanic household had a net worth of only $5,000 in 1995-just 8 percent of whites. Median Hispanic financial wealth was actually zero.**

SOURCE: United for a Fair Economy (www.stw.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May God write us down as asses if ever again we are found putting our trust in either the Republican or the Democratic parties. **WEB DuBois**			**1** **1997**: UPS victory celebrated at Olympia's Labor Day Celebration **1998**: Dow Jones rebounds 288 points from 512 drop the day before	**2** **1998**: Judge sends Sen West, R-Spokane, trial for phone intimidation **1998**: Forest fires force evacation of 500 near Kelso	**3** **1998**: State Supreme Court rules state's military personnel who are tried/punished under miliatry law aren't subject to civilian courts	**4** **1998**: Jesse Jackson, Boeing CEO discuss alledged racial discrimination/retaliation **1998**: Clinton finally says, "I'm sorry."
5 **1882**: 1st Labor Day parade in the US held in NYC with 10,000 workmen participating **1877**: Crazy Horse killed while in custody	**6** **1996**: Sen. Gorton charges military action against Iraq added to Middle East instability **1997**: Activists picket Circus at Evergreen	**7** **1904**: AL: 2,000 burn jail; kill African-american accused of murder **1998**: Anderson Refrigeration warehouse burns	**8** **1974**: Ford pardons Nixon **1965**: UFW strikes against grape growers **1998**: Aro Glass building in Olympia burns	**9** **1998**: Starr report is delivered to Congress **1998**: Clinton again apologizes to American public and promises to "make it right"	**10** **1998**: Lacey City Council drops proposed panhandling permit requirement **1998**: Starr Report alleges impeachable acts	**11** **1998**: Clinton at White House prayer breakfast, "I have sinned" **1998**: Judge throws out logging rules protecting salmon
12 **1956**: Black students entered Clay KY elementary shcool under National Guard protection. They were barred from school on 9/17	**13** **1995**: US Distict Court Judge rules Clinton administration must proceed with timber cutting on thousands of acres of NW forest	**14** **1998**: Nisqually tribal member, Reuben Wells, is shot with a pellet gun while operating a boat on the Nisqually River	**15** **1995**: Intel announces that it will build a plant in DuPont, WA **1997**: USDA states 11 million Americans go hungry each year	**16** **1997**: Sen. Gorton agrees to withdraw legislation forcing Native-american tribes to relinquish protection against lawsuits	**17** **1998**: State forcasts economic slowdown due to Asian crisis **1998**: Rain ends 48 day dry spell in Thurston County	**18** **1850**: Fugitive Slave Act passes Congress **1998**: Judge rules Shoalwaters must remove 108 electronic gambling machines
19 **1981**: 300,000 demonstrators protest social policies of the Reagan administration in Solidarity Day march on Washington, DC	**20** **1664**: Maryland enacts law to prevent marriage of English women and black men **1973**: Billie Jean King beat Bobby Riggs	**21** **1998**: Thurston County juvenile detention center in Tumwater opens **1998**: Federal judge rules Makah Tribe can hunt gray whales	**22** **1862**: Emanicpation Proclamation **1961**: Segregation on interstate buses banned **1995**: The Longhouse at TESC is dedicated	**23** **1998**: A 16-year-old is arrested in connection with the September 14th shooting of Nisqually tribal member	**24** **1998**: Lacey City Council opposes Initiative 200 **1998**: Feminist leaders back Clinton over impeachment efforts	**25** **1995**: The Thurston County Commissioners vote to free a $450,000 state grant to build apartment in the Fleetwood Building
26 **1944**: First Hanford Reactor begins operation **1998**: Project Seawolf preparing to oppose the Makah's whale hunt	**27** **1998**: Louvon Byrd Harris visits civil rights gathering in Lacey to promote The James Byrd Jr Foundation for Racial Harmony	**28** **1905**: Reports circulate siting 1000s of deaths in the Congo condoned by French government **1997:** Bill Gates tops the Forbes 400 list	**29** **1998**: Los Angeles district attorney, Gil Garcetti, attends and speaks at a Bernardean Broadous campaign breakfast	**30** **1998**: Article in the journal"Science" reports fossile evidence of worm-like animals found in billion year old rock	**AUGUST** S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	**OCTOBER** S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Along the Color Line

The Green Alternative and Black America



Dr. Manning Marable

The fundamental problem in American politics today is that there are few real alternatives that reflect the opinions and interests of most people. The vast majority of African Americans and Latinos, and millions of whites as well, probably agree with this statement. Millions of people don't vote, not because they are apathetic, but because they rarely can make choices in the voting booth that have meaningful consequences in our lives. We seldom get to vote for what we want, and usually are pressured to vote for what we don't want, only because it is the "lesser evil."

In the congressional elections of 1998, only about 35 to 40 percent of registered voters actually voted. In one quarter of the races that year, there was only one major party candidate on the ballot. The average margin of victory for winning candidates was 40 percent over their opponents. Roughly 80 percent of all Congressional districts are deliberately designed to be generally "safe" or not competitive, so that one major party—the Republicans or the Democrats—can almost always control these districts. Therefore, it's not surprising that more than 90 percent of all incumbent Congressman who seek reelection win.

Our political system is based on a "winner-take-all" arrangement, which severely penalizes minority interests. Restrictive election laws make it extremely difficult for Third Parties to gain ballot access. Large corporate and private interests finance the corrupt political system with hundreds of millions of dollars. Neither the Democrats nor the Republicans have any interest in changing the rules of the game as it is now played.

In Washington DC last month, activists in the Greens/Green Party USA came to a conference at American University to discuss real alternatives in the political system. The Greens are a political reform movement representing millions of people throughout the world, who care deeply about the global ecology and environmental justice issues. The Greens also believe in gender and racial equality, the need for community-based, democratic political and economic institutions, and the use of nonviolence as a means of resolving differences in society. Throughout the country, Greens are involved in local struggles to eliminate toxic wastes and the environmental racism that oppresses black, brown and poor communities.

Although "environmental racism" is a real issue that impacts millions of people of color, most racial minorities will not gravitate towards a politics defined largely by a concern for the world's ecology.

In 1996, consumer advocate Ralph Nader ran as the Green Party's candidate for president. Despite a virtual media boycott and little money, Nader appeared on the ballot in 22 states. The party fielded eight candidates for Congressional seats. In 2000, the Greens have set a goal of mounting 50 campaigns to the U.S. Congress.

Despite all of the structural difficulties that exist for Third Parties, the political message of the Greens is beginning to be heard. In April, 1999, Green Party candidate Audi Bock narrowly defeated former Oakland Democratic Mayor Elihu Harris, for a seat in the California State Legislature. Bock had never run previously for elective office and spent only $33,000 on her campaign. By contrast, Harris spent $550,000 and had the support of the Democratic Party. Bock's victory shows that an effective grassroots campaign around a progressive agenda can under some circumstances defeat a major party candidate.

In Lawrence, Massachusetts, an old industrial town that is more than 40 percent Latino, Green Party activists have helped to establish the Lawrence Grassroots Initiative, or LGI. The LGI is a multi-issue movement, committed to "social change through ecology, grassroots democracy, nonviolence and social justice."

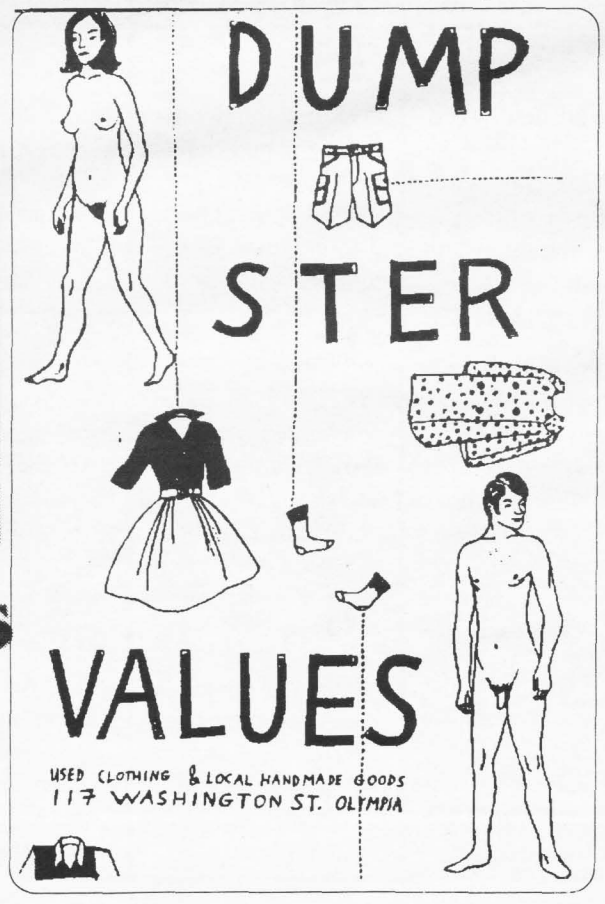
The Greens have already established themselves as a small but viable Third Party. In 1996, Nader received nearly 700,000 votes nationally. Almost 240,000 votes came from California alone. About 100,000 California voters have enrolled in the party by registering with the state.

However, as it is presently constructed, the Green Party also has serious contradiction and weaknesses. Chief among them are its racial composition, which is largely white, and its class composition, which is mostly middle class. Although "environmental racism" is a real issue that impacts millions of people of color, most racial minorities will not gravitate towards a politics defined largely by a concern for the world's ecology. When Green activists in Philadelphia this March staged protests against the Home Depot retail chain for its buying policies contributing to rainforest destruction, most African-American local activists weren't involved. It is absolutely true that 80 percent of the world's original rainforests have been destroyed, and this has devastating consequences for people of African and Latino descent. But for issues of global ecology to become really relevant to racialized minorities here in the US, they must be clearly linked to a progressive socioeconomic agenda for full employment and a living wage, healthcare, quality education and housing.

There has been some discussion within the Green Party USA about building a united left party in concert with the Socialist Party USA, to mount a national effort. As of now, it appears that Nader will again be the Greens' Presidential candidate next year. But what's urgently needed is a national dialogue about independent politics, which would involve a spectrum of progressive groups—the Greens, the Labor Party, the New Party, the Black Radical Congress, the various socialist parties and organization, and activists in organized labor, civil rights, lesbian, gay, feminist, Latino and Asian-American constituencies. For this national dialogue to succeed, African Americans, Latinos, and other people of color must be central to its conceptualization and leadership. The objective reality of racism requires white progressives to learn from the voices and experiences of the Black Freedom Movement. If they are willing and able to do so, a new chapter in progressive politics and multiracial coalition building may begin. ◆

Ramble Imports
202 W. 4th Ave.
Olympia

THE DANGER ROOM COMICS
* Alternative & Mainstream Comics
* Comic-related Items (t's, pins'n stuff)
* Magic The Gathering
* Role Playing Games & supplies
OPEN MON.-SAT.
705-3050
201 W. Fourth Ave., Olympia
(corner of 4th & Columbia)



In 1973, KAOS began as a bold experiment in broadcasting. Since that time, we have grown into the South Sound's listener-supported community radio station. Now more than ever, we at KAOS are committed to:
LOCAL VOICES
INDEPENDENT MUSIC
GLOBAL NEWS
KAOS 89.3 fm
OLYMPIA COMMUNITY RADIO
http://www.kaosradio.org

Up Front

Furrow's Rampage

Jerome Johnson

Dear Colette,

Hope this finds you and your son well.

I must confess to a certain element of guilt in writing this letter. I SHOULD be writing my article for "Works In Progress." I was going to write about the Furrow rampage, and while I was working on the background material I got a bad cold, which slowed me down but also left me with a lot of time to think and feel and process.

I was at work when the first reports of Furrow's violence began to come in. Right away I got that icy clench in my gut that I always feel whenever racist terrorism happens. My first thought was, "Oh Lord, not AGAIN this summer...and again it's the Jews who are targets...who else has this nut hurt...and who else will he hurt before he's caught?"

And then I learned that Furrow allegedly killed a letter carrier, Joe Ileto, as he walked his route on a quiet LA residential street. He calmly asked Ileto to mail a letter, then pulled his 9mm pistol and shot Ileto to death. Ileto tried to crawl away, and allegedly Furrow shot him dead in the back, while he was on the ground. Then, allegedly, Furrow drove downtown, had a few beers, did a little shopping and cabbed to Las Vegas.

Furrow told police that the attack on the community center was a "wake-up call to America to kill Jews," adding that Ileto was a "non-white target of opportunity."

For the next few days I felt surreal, almost as if living in two different worlds. One was the normal world, where I went to work, surrounded by oblivious white, Gentile co-workers who never asked me how I was doing, or felt targeted, or scared for my loved ones. Business as usual; a long time ago, I learned to leave my feelings in the car when I got to work. The other was my personal world, the one populated not only by everyone else but also my friends and loved ones, who are a pretty diverse group of people. In my personal world there was a LOT of discussion, prayer, consolation, mutual support—all the techniques we use to keep ourselves together whenever something like this happens.

And then I got sick. Thank God I'm one of the lucky wage slaves who has minimal benefits; I was able to stay home and get better. While I was home I heard the reports of Furrow's roots in this community, the shock of his neighbors, his history of mental illness, violence and membership in the Aryan Nations. I heard that Furrow, like many in the white supremacist movement, was a lonely outcast, and some in the media speculated that he was following a "lone wolf" strategy.

I don't know.

I do know that Buford Furrow is a violent terrorist, and that his terrorism is reserved exclusively for Jews and people of color.

I also believe that someone, something, made Buford Furrow snap.

Although a practicing racist, until now he'd never committed any acts of racist violence. According to reports he was unemployed. How and where did he get the gas money to drive from here to Los Angeles, where did money for food and lodging come from? Where did his heavy arsenal of weapons, ammunition and equipment come from? What—or who —made Buford Furrow get up one day and start this rampage?

I hope to learn the answers to these questions as Furrow goes through his trial process, and I hope more arrests are made before anyone else is hurt or killed. I say this, even though the icy clench in my gut—not to mention history—tells me that this will happen again. It always does...and as usual, I pray and pray that it won't be my friends and loved ones who are the next "targets of opportunity."

Colette, my soul aches.

In Turkey, a grieving nation emerges from the rubble.

In Cambodia, United Nations officials prepare to try fromer Khmer Rouge leaders for genocide and other crimes against humanity.

In Maryland, writing from "The Boondocks," Aaron McGruder tells it like it is—no punches pulled.

And in Thurston County, once more a community comes together to stand against racism and violence. ◆

Where did his heavy arsenal of weapons, ammunition and equipment come from? What—or who —made Buford Furrow get up one day and start this rampage?

United Against School Violence

Wed., September 1st at 5:30pm

Tumwater Elementary School

Arms linked against racist & school violence

Unity March and Rally Against Racist Violence

Sunday, September 19th

1pm March from Capital Steps to Sylvester Park

Speakers, Music, Open Mike

This event is designed to offer our community a positive method of responding to the recent hate crimes that occurred in Los Angeles. Sadly, Buford Furrow is a reminder that hate resides in every community; even Thurston County. This is your chance to raise awareness and promote harmony in Washington State. Please make a personal commitment to oppose religious and ethnic persecution by participating in this event.

(360) 786-5498 or unitymarch@aol.com

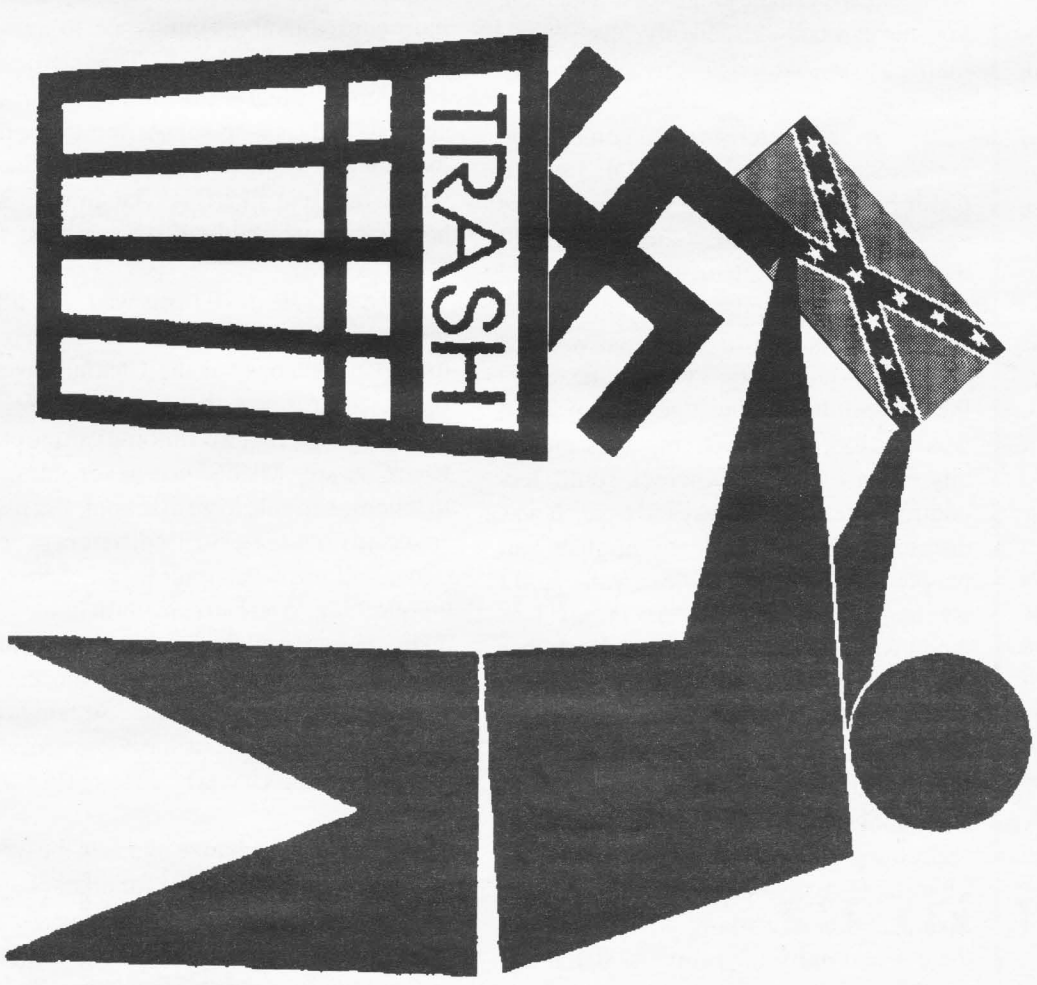
http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/unitymarch/myhomepage/index.html

Stop the Hate

October 7th - TBA

Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation will be sponsoring an event on the theme "A Vision of Healing, a Voice of Hope: Stop the Hate." This event is part of a nationwide effort sponsored by the FOR and the Interfaith Alliance. For information call the FOR at 491-9093.

Cut along line to remove poster. Please display in your home, work, school, car, etc and use as a master to make copies with! Courtesy of WIP 9/99



PITCH - IN

CLEAN UP

YOUR TOWN!

Crossing the Line

Where North and South Meet: We Can All Share This Space

This month's edition of WIP marks the beginning of an open-ended series of oral histories titled "Crossing the Line." These oral histories are the product of interviews conducted with various social and environmental change activists in the Olympia area, which were taped and then transcribed, edited and polished by myself.

I asked all interview subjects the same questions: Where are you from, and how long have you been in Olympia? What kind of work do you spend most of your time doing? How do you prevent burn-out? How has your activism changed over the years? What changes have you seen in Olympia? What are some under-utilized resources or tactics you've found, that you'd like to share? How can the activist community stay stable, when so many members are transient? What would you like Olympia to be like in 50 years? What would you like the world to be like? In your experience, what types of internal/ interpersonal problems make it difficult for us to work together? Have you seen ways we can get past these problems? How do issues of class, race, age, gender, etc. come up in your work? What ways have you learned to deal with these unequal relationships? Is there some way that you actively bring diversity into your life?

Most of the people I interviewed are middle aged. Many are single moms. They earn their money as bureaucrats, mechanics, clerks, psychologists, and so on. A couple of them live on pensions, and fill their days with volunteer work. A lucky few get paid for their heart's work, their political work. They are Latino, African-American, white, Jewish, Catholic, Baptist, atheist, straight, lesbian, able-bodied and not. They come from various class backgrounds, and hold different issues close to their hearts. In common, they have a place, a community, and the need and ability to work for change, year after year, after year.

Many of these histories have been cut down to fit within the space available in WIP. If you have an interest in receiving a full-length copy of any oral histories, or if you have ideas about where to further publish these works, you can leave a message at 456-6120. Also feel free to call if you have an idea for an Olympia-based activist I should interview. I am especially looking for new subjects who will expand the scope of perspective in this series, as far as race, class, gender, sexuality, ability, spirituality, and so forth.

by Megan Davis

Emiliana Cruz is an Evergreen student and single mom who's lived in the Olympia community for the past five years. Going to school full-time, caring for 7-year-old Frida, and working a low-wage job fill her life with work, but nevertheless activism has always remained an important dimension of Emiliana's life. Right now she's coordinator for TESC student group L.A.S.O. (Latin American Student Organization), and is working on a video oral history project with migrant workers in eastern Washington, among other things.

I was born in the mountains, in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico. I come from the Chatino indigenous group. We are in the south of Oaxaca. When I was young I moved to the city to work as a servant, and then... in '94 I came to Olympia. A lot of people ask me why I pick Olympia. I didn't pick Olympia. What happened is my sister was living here with her husband and I came here, so I didn't have anybody in another part of the United States. But I always thought Olympia was kind of interesting because my sisters used to write me letters and say, "Oh, Olympia is so cool, there is some people that have earrings in their nose, and they have pink, green and red hair! And then we seen these punk rockers. And there's cafes all over, and great things!" And I was like, gosh, that sounds like a really interesting place.

I hated the idea to come to the United States. I was like, "No, I never want to go to the United States!" And I always refused to speak English. When I went to middle school and high school they taught us English, but I didn't learn anything. I was always really stubborn. I said, "No, I don't want to learn yankee language!" But then, you never know. Suddenly, my sister's married to this American guy, and here we are.

It was really interesting to come to the United States. That was in 1994. I was in California, and everything was so new. We came to Olympia, and it's true. I saw all these people with red hair, their nose pierced and everything, and tattoos, and I said, "Wow, this is weird." The first week, it was like a whole party. I was so amazed by the new culture that I was getting to. But it was hard too, because Olympia just culturally wasn't a place where I could feel comfortable. It was always strange. It was different. I didn't speak any English, and people would say to me, "See ya!" And I was like, "Cia...?" For us, "cia" is the C.I.A. And I was like, "CIA, oh my god!" It was really scary! It's true.

It was a town where young people live, but at the same time they were very isolated. Kind of far. Like, they were different from something you could feel comfortable to really integrate to. You felt kind of outside... There was really rare people that spoke Spanish. I was walking downtown, and there was totally no people that I could speak Spanish to.

I'm thinking Olympia is a really nice community, now that I know the language and got more involved in the community. But I'm also not part of the community sometimes. I'm planning on staying probably two or three more years in Olympia, and planning on going back to Mexico.

I work in a store. That's how I sustain myself. I'm a single mom, and I struggle, you know, economically. The main thing for me is my daughter. I spend time trying to be with her. And I spend a lot of time in school, and doing homework (laughs)... But also, I have this other responsibility that I feel like is really important, and it's always been really important- being an activist... I don't know if I can call myself an activist, (laughing) but I definitely stand for any cause that is necessary. When I see injustice, I'll stand for that. And also, it's not just specifically about Mexico. I think all of the problems are kind of linked with each other and related to each other.

Family Ties

I grew up in reality. I didn't grow up in this false idea of what's life. I was really poor when I grew up, I didn't have anything. That doesn't mean because I was poor or because my parents beat me up or whatever, I have existential problems, you know? (laughing) I'm fine with that. They moved me to the city when I was seven or so, and I started working as a servant... Because I grew up poor, or because I didn't have enough things, I'm not bitter about it. I think there's a really strong base that my personality came into. I think it was something that helped [me] to be more conscious about things, and to appreciate things in the world too. That's probably why I strongly feel like it's important to be an activist, and to keep supporting the people that are still in those conditions. And my whole family's like this! (laughing) And hopefully, our children, we can pass this down to them.

My dad... He did it in his way. He didn't go to school and he became one of the most important persons for the Chatino people. And us, we're not that important for the Chatino people, but we're doing it in the place where we are. My dad was never able to go to school. I'm able to go to school, I'm being educated in college. So it's different generations, and each generation has their own unique thing. And I'm sure my daughter will do more. I crossed the border when I was in my twenties, and she crossed the border when she was two years old. So things are going to be different, but that doesn't mean in a bad way. I think it will be different in a good way.

If I'm trying to change things in the world or if you wanted to change for other people, you might as well just do your change first in your house! Clean your house first, and make sure you're doing fine in there. So I try to have good relationships, and I try to communicate. I think it's really good- My daughter... is involved in doing things I do. Anything that we're doing, I don't treat her like she doesn't understand. I don't treat her like, saying, "Oh, she's just a child. Don't tell her all the bad things that are happening." No. If people are killing people, well, that's what it is, and I'm not going to lie about it. I'm going to be honest about it, and that's going to open her perspective. She has friends that go to church, and she says, "Hey, can I go to church?" I'm not Christian, but I say, "Yeah." That opens her, the things that she will believe in. She's going to find out those things on her own, and then the education that I give her, she's going to have this too. And then she's going to decide for herself... I want her to see the whole world, and I want her to be open for it.

It seems like we have a lot of work to do together. It seems like every group is independent - they always separate the issues.

Sharing Work, Sharing Space

Olympia's a hard town to work with because it's a student town and summertime nobody's here. (laughing) And people switch from one side to another side, and it's kind of hard to have this stability. You can do it during schooltime, but after school everyone leaves. But I see a lot of people really want to support all these activities that we do... And I like that. I see that people are getting more informed. That's really important... The students and the local people in the community participate in activities and then spread the word out. That's really important. Also, I see more Latino people now than when I moved here. Before, it was really weird to see a Latino walking on the street. Now I see them more, and that's nice. It's nice to have more diversity in the community. Olympia could use it. Olympia's a nice, humble town.

[In the time I've lived in Olympia,] I see some differences. I see some people that are really supporting the cause, like Media Island, like the Liberation Cafe. There's been some changes in Olympia in a good way. [Now] I feel more of an indigenous presence out in Olympia. And that's good. The information is there. It's good to see people who are open for it. But there's some people who are really isolated too. It seems like we have a lot of work to do together. It seems like every group is independent - they always separate the issues.

I feel like there has to be a way that we can all have a way to get together. We all

(Continued next page)

(No. & So., continued)

wanted to say that there is something wrong, but at the same time there is one enemy, right? We have one enemy in common - the system, which is the goverment and corporations. Rich people that don't want to give up their comfortable life. Who's polluting the rivers? Who is cutting trees? Who's killing people? Why is the people in jail? All those issues, they're linked together. Who's sending the weapons to Latin America to kill peasants? So I feel like we need to stop being so isolated from each other.

Sometimes people are kind of hard to work with. But we need all of them... it's hard! A lot of the people that work with us, they think we're really strong and they don't like it. And a lot of men are very intimidated by that. A lot of men, they think we like to control... [Also,] some people feel guilty, and then they bring that to the meeting. [We say], "Well, now, that's ok..." The way I look at it is, we need everyone. I need this person, I need this person's time. We can't separate ourselves...

I want to see the world different. Definitely. I want to see Mexico to have a government who respect people's rights, and who can at least have the basic needs for someone to live in a good condition- health, education. And I want that not just for Mexico, I want that for the whole world. And I think that workers should have the rights to have a union, and to be able to organize among themselves, and not to have somebody else to control them. And... I don't want to see a world that is just to go and kill people for oil, for money, for power. I want to see the world the way that we can all share this space, and no one is from nowhere. We are from the planet.

Yeah. So that's how I see it. I don't want to see the police harrassing people. I want everyone to have a space to express their anger, their feeling, their happiness. Young people, old people, everyone to have a space. Immigrant, black, white, or whatever your color or how you define yourself, I think it's important to have everyone have a space. And not to have this isolation from each other. I think everybody should work together. Which sounds really kind of naiive, but I think it's possible. It's important to say it and work for it, not just say it. Because I think it's easier to say something than to actually do it.

Responsibilities

I spend a lot of time doing work supporting the movement in Mexico right now, with the indigenous struggle. They want to have their rights, and have the basic needs. I guess as an indigenous woman, I have the responsibility to stand for that... I can't ignore it. So I do a lot of that. I try to inform the community about the situation... The problem in Mexico is not just the Zapatista movement. The military is not just in the Chiapas area, and they're not just killing people in Chiapas.

I think that Mexico is going through one of the most important changes in history, because we are having the PRI party for more than 75 years, and it's a dictatorship... I guess we focus a lot into the Chiapas area because they have been really organized, but in other places people are organized. In Oaxaca, we have a lot of different human rights organizations. The military is in all these communities in Mexico, and they're killing women, children. In Chiapas, too. In Guerrero they're doing the same thing, and in Michoacan, Oaxaca. It's not just a problem in Chiapas. It's a problem in the whole Mexico.

I was born in a family that has been activists. My dad was an activist, and he was killed. I carry that with me. It's in my blood. Even if you run, wherever you go, you're gonna have that... I guess it runs in the family. My family the whole time was being really in front, defending our rights as human beings. There's something that my dad said: "Well, you came in this world to do something. You didn't come here just because. It's not a mistake that you're here. There's a reason to be here. You might as well use the opportunity that you're here to see the injustice and to see how you can change those things." Because, sure, you can get up in the morning, eat and go to work, and get off and go to your house, and sit and watch tv. What's the point of your life? Everyone has the right to live the way they wanted to, the way they choose. But at the same time, since we come from a culture that has been hundreds of years oppressed, it's our responsibility to do something for it.

I'm proud of my culture, I'm really strong, I'm happy, and I'm proud of crossing the border illegally and I'm proud that I can be here and, you know, complain about it! (laughing) But the other side, in terms of working for human rights, my dad was killed as an activist - not because he was involved in other things, he was just asking for the indigenous rights. And that's part of my activism too, because I don't think that nobody should be killed just because they want health and education and a better life for their own people. That's not something that people should be killed for. That's something that I care really strongly about. I believe that it is wrong.

And the other part is that I live in this place that I feel not part of... It seems like my culture is not as strong in here... To keep the culture with my own people here, that's something really important to me too, and to pass that onto my children. And that's something that relates to my personal life, because it's like, I'm scared my daughter not to be able to feel like she's Mexican, or that she's Indian, too. I'm afraid that someday she will say, "There is nothing for me in Mexico. We are up here, my friends are here, and this is where I'm from." Which is true. This is her place. But there's also this really scary part: "No. You have tons of relatives in Mexico. You're from Mexico." So... a lot of the personal issues that you have in your life and that you strongly believe that it hasn't been fair - that's what you're going to want to put your energy into. But not <u>just</u> that.

In general, after being able to get educated in school, and seeing other problems in other parts of the world, you relate to those problems. You relate to the problems of other women in the world, you relate to the problems that native people have to face in all parts of the world. So I'm not just saying I just want to see changes in Mexico. No, I want to see the world, I want to see other places be changed. ◆

PCUN- Farmworker Slums in the Fields

Campaign for Labor Rights

During most of the year, our alerts on the farmworker struggle emphasize activities around the boycott of NORPAC products (FLAV-R-PAC, Westpac and Santiam). During the summer, our focus shifts to resistance activities by the farmworkers themselves.

As the marionberry harvest came to a close last week, many workers from Kraemer farms began leaving for California where they hoped to find work in the grape harvest. But although many workers who began the fight over a month ago to improve the living and working conditions at the farm are gone, their struggle is far from over.

On August 5, twelve workers who lived in the labor camp known as the "trailer" signed a statement to the public, acknowledging that some gains were made but highlighting the reality that very little has changed. "We achieved some things this year," workers wrote, "but it's not enough. Of everything that we complained about, only a few issues have been addressed."

To increase the pressure on the Kraemers, more than 40 workers have brought a lawsuit against Kraemer Farms for the substandard conditions at "the trailer" and for other violations in the fields.

Workers have been protesting the conditions at "the trailer" - and asking that PCUN be granted free access to meet with workers there - for the last ten years, but Kraemers' consistent response has been to intimidate workers who organize for better conditions. This year, as in past years, the Kraemers and their supervisors have called the police, followed organizers to labor camps and threatened workers with firing and eviction for talking with PCUN organizers.

While workers expressed disappointment at Kraemers' and OSHA's inaction, they recognized the importance of public pressure and called on supporters to continue the struggle in their absence: "We know that without the support of PCUN, religious leaders, the press and the public we can't reach this goal. We need for everyone to continue to pressure the Kraemers so that they make the needed improvements."

Workers stated that "while we may not be back at "the trailer" next year, for those workers who will be here, we hope that they might live in better conditions." To increase the pressure on the Kraemers, more than 40 workers have brought a lawsuit against Kraemer Farms for the substandard conditions at "the trailer" and for other violations in the fields.

Inadequate state laws and poor enforcement enable the Kraemers to get away with ignoring workers' demands for improvements. Since their first letter to the Kraemers and public statement (of June 28, 1999), OSHA has inspected the camp twice. In the first inspection, OSHA cited the Kraemers for six violations, which included inadequate square footage per occupant (overcrowding) and inadequate washing and bathing facilities. Workers were disappointed to learn that while OSHA issued a citation, the Kraemers were not fined for their failure to comply with the law.

In a follow-up inspection conducted several weeks after the original inspection, OSHA found no violations. Workers were dismayed because one of the original violations - overcrowding - had not been abated. While OSHA reported no evidence of overcrowding, workers estimated that there were still roughly 70 workers living at the camp (possibly as many as 18 more than the number of workers legally allowed in the camp), and they confirmed that more than 5 workers were sleeping on the floor upstairs, and several were still sleeping in the vans outside. Again, workers saw that as long as the state does not obligate the Kraemers to make the needed improvements, growers will continue to benefit from having maintenance-free labor camps.

In a previous letter to the public, signed by more than thirty workers from "the trailer", workers outlined specific changes they wanted to see. They asked for mattresses to be put on their plywood beds, sufficient hot water for bathing, cleaner bathrooms, and public telephones. Despite the basic nature of their demands, their request for improvements was met with inaction by the Kraemers. Workers continue to use cardboard or thin rugs as padding on their beds; they complain about a lack of hot water; and they have to walk more than 2 miles to use a public telephone.

Their greatest concern was the lack of a kitchen or cooking facility where workers could cook for themselves instead of having to pay the camp operator $60/week for food prepared at "the trailer". After their original complaint, workers were given the "option" of paying the $60/week to eat there, or of driving five miles or more to buy food. Workers were never provided with a place to cook for themselves. In the August 5 letter, they reiterated their frustration with the Kraemers' unresponsiveness: "Where is the kitchen we asked for? The telephones? The mattresses?"

Workers' frustration was echoed in an August 6 editorial in the [Portland] Oregonian newspaper, which characterized conditions at "the trailer" labor camp as "slums in the fields" and called attention to the inadequacy of the current standards for labor camps. The editorial followed an article printed in the Oregonian on August 1 which documented the conditions in "the trailer" and in four other labor camps owned by the Kraemers.

Despite the clear pattern of intimidation, workers at "the trailer" have remained strong. In the conclusion to the August 5 statement, they reiterate their position: "Year after year, we come here to work [in the fields] and we deserve to live in better conditions than these."

PCUN (Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste - Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United) www.pcun.org ◆

Telephone Voting Would Foster Democracy

Evan Ravitz

(Excerpted from an editorial originally published in the BOULDER, CO SUNDAY CAMERA 5/16/93 OPINION)

There are some critics of Voting by Phone who feel that using this technology for so-called Direct Democracy or Electronic Town Meetings is not good, that the people need better education before they can be trusted with more democracy.

This is what I learned about democracy during a friend's presentation to other parents about Sudbury Valley School in Framingham, Massachusetts. Sudbury has operated since 1968 on two principles- democracy and freedom. Everyone from the Principal to the youngest—the four-year-olds, has one vote in the weekly School Meeting. This meeting decides everything- hiring and firing, budget, everything. There is also a Judicial Council, with representatives of all age groups. They are rarely very busy.

The children are free! They don't **have** to go to school, though usually they have to be evicted at 4PM so the staff can go home. They study anything they want, or just listen to music until they get over their problems, or whatever.

Because Sudbury is their school, the children do not vandalize it (or shoot the teachers). They actually help maintain and improve the school, as well as educate themselves and each other. Therefore, the school runs with half the faculty and staff of Massachusetts public schools, and costs half what the public schools do—$3000 per pupil rather than $6000.

In a poll after the Rio Summit last year, the vast majority of Americans said they were ready to bite the bullet to preserve the environment. But the President wouldn't sign the accords

Everything in Guatemala seems so life and death serious. And so it is. More of my Indian friends were killed in the four years I'd been away.

Ever wonder why bananas all the way from Guatemala are only $.50 a pound and apples from Colorado cost more? It's because agricultural workers there earn about $2 per day. Our military aid since 1954 keeps those Indians colonized. It is American M-16s that killed my friends, one of them for organizing a farm co-op to get better pay.

When I last returned from Guatemala 4 years ago, I discovered a nationwide poll that showed 65% of Americans would end U.S. military aid to Central America. That is one of the reasons I got serious about our project. When the American people have a vote on the issue, my Guatemalan friends will no longer live in fear.

There are other reasons. In a poll after the Rio Summit last year, the vast majority of Americans said they were ready to bite the bullet to preserve the environment. But the President wouldn't sign the accords, and Councilman Spenser Havlick said he felt ashamed to be an American. Perhaps he would have been prouder if his country had the democracy most Voting by Phone supporters seek.

****Note**: The Olympia Teledemocracy Ordinance was inspired in part by Evan Ravitz's efforts to pass a vote-by-phone ballot measure in Boulder, CO in 1993. This measure would have established voting-by-phone in all official elections. It failed mainly because of people's concerns about the security of the technology, which were greatly exaggerated by the opposition.

The Olympia Teledemocracy Ordinance would not allow people to vote-by-phone in official elections. It would create a completely separate advisory voting-by-phone system. Advisory means that the results of the vote would not have the force of law. This is just like the advisory vote we had last year on the Fluoride issue. The advantages of this approach are several:

1) Because it is advisory, and because citizens will be able to call a vote by collecting 250 signatures, it will let us vote on many more issues than we get to vote on now, at the local, state and national level. Olympia residents will be able to think about, discuss and vote on everything from the round-a-bouts, to the Port's Marine Terminal, to Health Care, to US Military aid to Columbia.

2) It makes the security issues less urgent.

3) It let's us vote up to twice per month throughout the entire year.

Come hear Bernie Friedman and other local candidates for public office speak on why they support the Teledemocract Initiative

Sunday, Sept 26, 2-4pm
Olympia Public Library

For more information on the Olympia Teledemocracy Initiative and the vision, ideas and inspiration behind it, visit our website at www.olywa.net/ocad or call Jeff Sowers, at 534-9369. ◆

TRADITIONS
Cafe & World Folk Art
Dick Meyer www.traditionsFairTrade.com
Main store: (360) 705-2819
300 5th Ave. SW Fax (360) 705-0747
Olympia, Wa. 98501
also@Antique Sandwich Co.
5102 No. Pearl
Tacoma, Wa. 98407
FAIR TRADE FEDERATION

Olympia Community Yoga Center
• Yoga Classes • Holistic Studies
• Workshops
1009 E. 4th Avenue, Olympia, WA 98506
360-753-0772
Call us about Work-Study

JAMIE LEE & CO.
309 E. 4TH
OLYMPIA, WA
98501
786-6027
10% DISCOUNT FOR REFILLING PRODUCT BOTTLES
FULL SERVICE SALON
BOTANICAL HAIR CARE PRODUCTS
HAIR · NAILS ·
MASSAGE · PIERCING ·
SKINCARE · PEDICURES ·
FACIALS · WAXING ·
EYE LASH & BROW TINTING ·
FREE CONSULTATIONS ·
FREE BANG TRIMS

Darby's Cafe
phone 357-6229
open 7:am-2:pm wed. - sun.
located at the corner of 4th ave. & Plum st.
entrance under the purple awning on Plum

Something for Everyone!
· Autoclave Sterile ·
· Exotic Erotic Jewelry ·
· Custom Art Specialists ·
TATTOOS PIERCING
ALTERED STATES
ESSENTIAL BODY ART
©1997
307 E. 4th Ave
Downtown Olympia
360-754-6623

WANTED:
WRITERS
CARTOONISTS
WEBMASTERS
PHOTOGRAPHERS
PROOFREADERS
FOR THE RADICAL NEWSPAPER YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS.
VOLUNTEER!
wip@olywa.net, v/f (360)705-2726
PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507

T-Shirts · Posters · Buttons · Bumperstickers · custom printing
Northland Poster Collective
since 1979!
20 YEARS
Frameable, wearable, postable, stickable art.
Social justice, labor, sisterhood, & more!
STOP Northland
CEOs SAY UNION NO!
20 YEARS is Enough!
This Advertiser UNFAIR to Bosses
Really unfair!
(800) 627 3082
www.northlandposter.com

U.S. and Columbia

Ankle Deep In the Big Muddy

Ron Jacobs

Recently, the United States military lost a plane in the skies over Colombia. According to Pentagon sources, this plane was not shot down, nor was it on any kind of mission that involved the civil war in Colombia. These sources claim, with the backing of General McCafferty—U.S. drug "czar", that the mission was solely related to drug production and the so-called war on that production. In almost the same breath, however, McCafferty called for a billion dollars (yes $1,000,000,000) in military aid to fight the drug war and the Marxist revolutionaries (FARC -Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia and ELN-Ejercito de Liberacion Nacional)in the region. Now, I don't know about you, but one can't have it both ways: either the United States is fighting against the leftist forces in the region or they are not. My reading of the situation goes with the former. That is, they are and intend to do so until these forces are defeated. Of course, the likelihood of such a defeat is remote, even should full scale U. S. military involvement eventually occur.

This is not out of the question. Indeed, the United States let it be known during the week of July 26, 1999, that it has "a couple hundred" troops in Colombia training elite battalions whose job will be to sever the ties between the coca and opium farmers and the revolutionary forces. Of course, as any one with a basic knowledge of prior Pentagon training missions in other parts of the world is aware, these trainers often participate in military missions and may even denote an even greater U.S. involvement in the future.

In order to understand what exactly the Pentagon means in describing these battalions' mission, it is essential to examine the relationship between the peasant coca and opium farmers and the revolutionary organizations. To understand this relationship, it is first necessary to understand the role drug production plays in the economy of Colombia.

This operation can be considered a model of how U. S. government agencies cynically manipulate modern society's desire for pharmaceutically induced escape to finance their dirty operations in the service of various corporate interests.

The peasants have two basic choices in today's Colombia—to go to the big cities and become beggars and prostitutes or farm the land. If they choose the latter, they till the land and plant crops such as corn or plantains. Since these areas were never developed, there are no transportation routes. Only by using the rivers and crossing hundreds of miles overland can the crop reach Bogota or other markets. By the time it gets there, the crop is unsaleable or has become so costly that the profit is practically lost. There is only one alternative open to the peasant farmer who wishes to subsist : growing coca leaves and, more recently, opium plants. Transportation costs for these crops is provided by the drug lords, who move incredible amounts of these products with the consent of high placed government leaders and the armed protection of the Colombian military and paramilitary forces funded by large landowners and drug lords.

The FARC and ELN guerrilla forces operate in the coca and opium growing regions. Indeed, they literally administer these regions. Like various parts of southern Vietnam that were in the control of the NLF, the residents of the region consider the revolutionary forces as their government and support their administration. In order to pay the cost of running schools, health care centers, police forces, and other such infrastructural apparatus, the FARC and ELN forces tax the drug trafficking operations—farmers and those involved in the product's transportation and refinement. Although it is their preference not to support the dependency of the farming population on drug production, the reality is that this is where the money is in rural Colombia.

This is where the United States comes in, once again. Most of these drugs are shipped to the streets of our country. This does not happen without the complicity of government and law enforcement officials. In some cases, this means turning the other way when a shipment from a trafficker who has paid off the right people comes through. In other cases, the complicity is much more involved. Even those of us with rather short memories can remember the U.S. involvement in the drugs-for-guns operation run by Ollie North and his cohorts that supplied the contra forces fighting the Nicaraguan government in the 1980s. This operation (not the first of its kind, by the way—see Alfred McCoy's 1991 book The Politics of Heroin: CIA Complicity in the Global Trade) can be considered a model of how U. S. government agencies cynically manipulate modern society's desire for pharmaceutically induced escape to finance their dirty operations in the service of various corporate interests.

Speaking of corporate interests, if we follow the trail this leads us down we may discover the most fundamental reason of them all for the U. S. interest in Colombia: oil. Oil is the most important commodity in Colombia. It represented over one-fourth of the country's exports in 1996 and close to 5% of its Gross National Product (GNP). In comparison, coffee represented 15.2 % and 3.4 %, respectively. Interestingly, few private Colombian citizens have any significant investment in the oil industry. Instead, the majority of the exploration and refinement interests are controlled by a state company known as Ecopetrol, which serves as a conduit for foreign oil companies, primarily British Petroleum (recently merged with Amoco to form the world largest oil company and may help to explain the increased desire for a greater U.S. military role in the country).

Over the course of the thirty year war, support for the revolutionary forces has expanded into the cities. This is due to the ever-widening disparity between the wealthy and the rest of the Colombian population and the military's harsh repression of those who organize the workers and the unemployed. Literally hundreds of labor organizers, social justice workers (clerics and laypersons) and student activists have been murdered and disappeared since the late 1980s. Such murderous actions push both activists and their supporters to a conclusion that armed struggle is the only workable strategy for the kind of social change they seek.

In addition, the recent election of and popular mandate for President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela and his policies makes the United States awfully nervous. As leftist webmaster and history professor Jay Moore of Vermont stated in a recent letter to various email groups formed during the recent NATO adventure in Yugoslavia, Venezuela is next door to Colombia and provides more oil to the U. S. than any other country. Should Chavez withstand the certain opposition he will face from internal and external reactionary forces and put his democratic and socialist-oriented policies in place in his country, the United States will have to deal with a popularly elected leftwing government in its "backyard" for the first time since the Chilean government of Salvador Allende. As history tells us, this means those U.S. citizens who support true democracy and oppose the neo-liberal agenda of the corporations and their cohorts in our government must do every thing in their power to oppose any attempts to destroy the Chavez government. As for Colombia, we must oppose any and all U. S. military intervention in that country—whether this intervention comes in the forms of "drug war" aid, trainers, advisers, or troops of any kind.

For more information, see:

North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) Report On the Americas—available at most libraries and many bookstores

Jay's Leftist & Progressive Internet Resources Directory: www.neravt.com/left/

Colombia Support Network
http://www.igc.apc.org/csn/
Postal Address and phone: P.O. Box 1505, Madison, WI 53701 phone: (608) 257-8753 fax: (608) 255-6621

FARC-Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (en espanol)
burn.ucsd.edu/~farc-ep/ ◆

Mixx 96fm KXXO
"Soft Rock for the Great Northwest"
Rockway-Leland Bldg. • Downtown Olympia

Little Shop of Reba
Great works by local artists

Would you like to show yours? Call Reba.
Antiques, collectibles, used books & phone cards
210 1/2 West Fourth Avenue, Olympia
Tues. - Sun. 11am - 7pm; Mon. 3pm - 7pm • 352-0600
10% off Heather's Attic with this ad

FLAT RATE INTERNET
$25 MONTHLY 753-3636
OLYWA.NET
OLYMPIA NETWORKING
FREE WEB SITE
NO TIME RESTRICTIONS
http://www.olywa.net

A Pacifica Chronology

by Lyn Gerry

The present conflict between KPFA and the Pacifica Foundation did not begin with the firing of station general manager Nicole Sawaya on March 31 or Larry Bensky on April 7. It did not begin with a controversial vote by the Pacifica National Board in February that stripped the local advisory board of any representation on the national board. And it did not begin with the election of Mary Frances Berry to the chair of the board or the hiring of Lynn Chadwick as executive director. For the beginning you have to go back, at least, to September 92 and follow the thread of events. Lyn Gerry, the author of the Chronolgy is the ex-Shop Steward, KPFK, Los Angeles.

Abuses by the Pacifica Management & Board of Directors:

1991-1992 "Strategy for National Programming": a plan to create a NPR-like National Program Service funded with donations from corporate foundations like Pew, Ford and MacArthur is drafted by Pacifica Management.

Feb. 1993 - Pacifica Board approves "Strategy for National Programming." KPFA Manager Pat Scott, embroiled in battles with staff at KPFA, is sent by Pacifica Executive Director David Salniker to lobby Congress, which is threatening to de-fund Pacifica.

1994 - Pat Scott is made acting Pacifica Executive Director and begins dictating program formats to stations. She participates on CPB "task force" with Lynn Chadwick, Executive Director of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, that recommends new funding guidelines tying stations to Arbitron ratings and higher fundraising goals. Purges begin at WPFW (Washington, D.C.).

Jan. 1995 - Pat Scott fires KPFK (L.A.) management and seizes control of books. Contract negotiations there are suspended. Gag rules are enforced against any staff member trying to inform the public regarding the firings. Purges of programmers begin at KPFK.

Feb. 1995- Pacifica Program Directors are told by hired consultants to mainstream the programming.

March -April 1995- A union-busting organization, American Consulting Group, is hired by Pacifica to draft new contracts stripping workers of all say in the organization, eliminating the right to strike, and unpaid staff from the stations' unions.

June 1995 - Pacifica Board closes all future finance committee meetings to the public in violation of federal communications law. Board minutes and board meetings are now "confidential."

July 1995- Pacifica Board Executive Committee Issues a "My way or the highway memo" announcing "vast changes" and advising Local Advisory Board members who disagree with the new direction of Pacifica to resign.

August 1995 - Massive purge of KPFA programmers by KPFA general manager Marci Lockwood under direction of Scott.

Sept. 1995 - Observers, including Take Back KPFA representative barred from National Board meeting in Houston.

Nov. 1995 - Brian McConnville, investigator from Inspector General's office of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), learns of closed board meetings and begins investigation of Pacifica's violation of open meeting rules. He is fired 17 days later before he can release a critical report after Pacifica's lawyer goes over his head to quash the investigation. Deputy IG Director Mike Donavan, who looks into the Pacifica Board's actions, is also fired on eve of making a critical report.

Feb. 1996- "Gag rule" issued saying that staff will be fired if they let callers criticize Pacifica policy on-air.

May 1996- Hiring of American Consulting Group is revealed. Pacifica Management lies repeatedly as criticism mounts. Management files a "clarification of unit" with the National Labor Relations Board to have unpaid staff at WBAI removed from the union.

Nov. 1996 - A Pacifica 5 -Year Strategic Plan is released, after a year and a half of secret meetings. It is a blueprint for remaking Pacifica into a top-down corporate hierarchy. More than $60,000 has been spent on union-busting activities

Feb. 1997 - WBAI workers win at the NLRB. Pacifica appeals the decision (its still in court)

March 1997- Under fire from listeners and the media, Scott hires Former Justice Dept. spokesperson Burt Glass as Pacifica's first "communications director". He drafts a "cheat sheet" full of lies and evasions for use in answering questions from the subscribers. Pacifica releases plan to reduce local representation on the National Board by half, which would give the board the ability to appoint a 2/3 majority. This is tabled in June when community members hire lawyer.

April -May 1997 - A "softer" CPB Inspector General's report is released which, nevertheless, cites Pacifica for violating open meeting laws. Scott and Pacifica Board Chair Jack O'Dell fly to Washington and meet privately with CPB Board and lawyers. CPB disregards it own IG's report, and praises the new Pacifica regime.

June 1997 - Mary Frances Berry made new Pacifica Board Chair.

July 1997 - KPFA Manager Marci Lockwood resigns. Lynn Chadwick, Executive Director of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, is made manager of KPFA.

August 1997- Pacifica writes a gag clause into the contracts for affiliate stations, many of whom have been running disclaimers about union-busting at Pacifica

Feb. 1998- KPFK Management sends memo barring programmers from encouraging attendance at anti-war demonstrations for Iraq.

April 1998 - Pat Scott resigns and is praised by CPB President Coonrod, former Deputy Director of the Voice of America, and director of Radio Marti, propaganda arm of US vs. Cuba. By now, more than 300 people have been purged from Pacifica stations.

Oct. 1998 - Lynn Chadwick named Executive Director of Pacifica.

Dec. 1998 - Larry Bensky abruptly fired then reinstated after public outcry. KPFA's new manager Nicole Sawaya supports Bensky and allows him to defend himself on the air.

Feb. 1999- Pacifica Board, overriding the votes of local Boards, staff and communities, makes itself a self-selecting body. WBAI staff goes on the air to mobilize the community against the heist. Board claims the CPB made them do it. In an unpublicized meeting of the Pacifica Executive Committee on the eve of the meeting, it is agreed that Sawaya, the most popular manager in KPFA history, "has to go."

March 31 1999 - Nicole Sawaya fired (technically, her contract was not renewed) Protests begin as KPFA staff goes on the air to tell the community what's going on inside Pacifica. The staff begins making on-air statements demanding the reinstatement of Sawaya.

April 4 1999 - Larry Bensky replies to Chadwick's distorted press statement and reads the speech he had prepared to deliver to the Pacifica Board in February bit was prevented from completing, on the expansion of Pacifica at the expense of KPFA and its sister stations.

Whose Commu

by Austin Kelley

On July 14, 1999, the escalating crisis in the Pacifica Radio Network exploded into our local awareness through news of the shutdown of radio station KPFA in Berkeley, and subsequent disruption of satellite-based programming on KAOS-FM in Olympia. At the eye of the storm was investigative journalist Dennis Bernstein, who helped break the CIA/Drug Connection Story, Gulf War Syndrome, and U.S. support for major human rights-violators. He will tell Thurston County of his infamous on-air apprehension by armed-guards, employed by a company that specializes in hostile takeovers, and of his analysis of the past, present, and future of Pacifica. You can hear him speak in a free "Teach-In" on September 10th at 7p.m. at the United Churches Hall, 11011th Ave NE in downtown Olympia. While sometimes characterized as simply a labor dispute, a battle over free speech, or a struggle about format changes, this crisis is actually all of the above, and much, much, more. At its heart is an internal "take-over" by a more corporate-style clique within the Pacifica National Board, which has exerted coercive control on the inner workings of Pacifica for many years (see CHRONOLOGY). Community Radio seems to have split off somewhat into competing camps. The first "group" places a very high value on increasing listenership numbers and professional staff, and hence on gaining and securing grants, underwriting etc.... They are also associated with syndicated satellite programming, and the creation of a format that is more predictable, and targeted at a specific, (and often monied), listening group. There is a sector that advances this type of "business model" throughout Community Radio, and not just in Pacifica.

Its detractors argue that this movement creates higher and more secure revenue for the managerial class, but homogenizes and dilutes the radical mission of Community Radio. Their camp places a higher emphasis on volunteer and listener participation, on free-speech rights, and on service to all ages, cultures and social classes. Amongst those who identify as "radicals" or "activists" are at least two competing tendencies. One is more inclined to agitate for a partisan political point-of-view and agenda. KPFA, although founded in 1949 by pacifistic and anarchistic idealists who thought they could prevent wars through encouraging people to think more freely about Society, was particularly associated with this tendency toward ideological rigor in the 70's. Another, more laissez-faire current, was exemplified by Lorenzo Milam, founder of the famous KRAB in Seattle and some twenty other associated stations in the "KRAB Nebula",

Concerned individuals in man challenged to analyze the situ appropriate action. As of the d article, there has been no resol the mediation between the KP and that of the Pacifica Natio

nationwide. Milam felt that Community Radio personnel should not just passively accept input from people with differing beliefs, but actively strive to provide a forum for people whose ideas were excluded from the mainstream: not just Marxists and Anarchists but others, including those who would be termed "far right ". KRAB of course, is one of the many Community Stations that was sold for com-

munity Radio?

nk
rly
:o-
)re
by
)us
ner
a",

mercial use. Different people in the Community Radio Movement have different explanations for why that is, and indeed whether that is a positive thing or not. As invisible as some of these debates may have been to many listeners of Community Radio, they are now on the table, due to the continuing crisis at Pacifica. Concerned individuals in

in many locales are being the situation, and to take of the date of submission of this no resolution whatsoever to the KPFA Negotiating Team a National Board.

ty
ly
ng
a
x-
x-
ng
".
ny
n-

many locales are being challenged to analyze the situation, and to take appropriate action. As of the date of submission of this article, there has been no resolution whatsoever to the mediation between the KPFA Negotiating Team and that of the Pacifica National Board. Dennis Bernstein and the rest of the KPFA Staff continue broadcasting at the pleasure of Pacifica.

Issues that remain unresolved include:

*" Free Speech" vs. "Gag Rules"

*The possible sale of Pacifica Stations KPFA in Berkeley, or WBAI in New York

*Democracy in Pacifica, Whether Pacifica management should continue to utilize tactics such as those mentioned in the CHRONOLGY: i.e. union-busting, mass-firings, secret meetings, armed guards locking down stations etc.

What does this have to do with people living in the Thurston County area? A lot. Given the increasing monopolization of the airwaves in the wake of recent deregulation, fewer and fewer conglomerates control more and more stations each year. Many are "robot stations" running canned news designed to "manufacture consent" for policies decided upon by elite groups. Independent alternatives to mainstream news and culture, are few and far between, and very valuable.

Those of us who want a better world would do well to investigate the issues and get involved in the movement for grassroots media. Get involved with this paper or with KAOS.

To investigate the Pacifica issues further, and even act, by means of the World Wide Web: www.radio4all.org, and www.savepacifica.net or www.pacifica.org

Come hear award-winning investigative journalist Dennis Bernstein speak about why he risked, (and suffered), arrest to broadcast the news that he felt was important to his listeners, and why the KPFA/Pacifica problem is far from over.

Dennis Bernstein at Olympia free event
Friday, September 10th
7:30 p.m.
United Churches Hall
110 11th Ave SE
Downtown Olympia

A local group is also forming to take action on the Pacifica matter, and on other issues related to media democracy. To get involved, call 352-8526.

April 9 1999 - Bensky fired again after promising on the air to discuss Chadwick's firing of Sawaya on his Sunday Salon program. The staff continues on the air calling for the reinstatement of both Sawaya and Bensky and an independent mediator to deal with the underlying disputes between Pacifica and KPFA.

April 15, 1999 - 1000 people demonstrate outside Pacifica's offices in Berkeley.

May 9, 1999 - Close to 2000 KPFA supporters rally for staff at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park to hear June Jordan, Utah Phillips, Holly Near, Wavy Gravy, Barbara Lubin and many others speak in support of KPFA staff.

May 13-27, 1999 - KPFA staff has record $605,000 Spring Fund Drive. 6200 of 7000 subscribers pledge under protest.

May 19, 1999 - National Labor Relations Board files complaint for unfair labor practices against Pacifica/WBAI

June 12, 1999 - 22-year programmer Robbie Osman exposes Chadwick's attempt to portray station to Pacifica Board as returning to "equilibrium."

June 14, 1999 - Atty. Dan Siegel, representing 16 members of Local Advisory Boards (LABs) of KPFA, KPFK and WBAI, sends a demand letter to Mary Frances Berry advising her that bylaw amendments approved by the Pacifica Board in Sept. '98 and Feb. '99 violate California Corporation law and requesting that they be rescinded. Deadline for a response is June 25.

June 18, 1999 - Chadwick fires Osman, accusing him of having "forfeited" his "access to KPFA/Pacifica airwaves."

June 20, 1999 - Hundreds turn out for an emergency rally at the station as KPFA goes off the air for the two hours of Osman's program.

June 21, 1999 - After camping overnight in front of KPFA and Pacifica headquarters, Chadwick has 14 people arrested for blocking Pacifica's doorway. Chadwick and Pacifica's six employees remove the files to another location.

June 22, 1999 - Several hundred again show up for a press conference in front of the station, part of which is played live on Flashpoints. Speakers include June Jordan, Michael Parenti, Elizabeth Martinez, Van Jones, Medea Benjamin. June 23, 1999 - Janet Reno's Justice department intervenes on behalf of Pacifica management; US DOJ staffer from the COPS Program (where former Pacifica Communications Director Burt Glass also worked) questions Berkeley Police Chief about their reluctance to arrest Pacifica demonstrators.

June 25 - 27, 1999 Pacifica Board meets. Attempts to deflect critics with accusations of racism and violence - an old ploy of Pacifica management since the Pat Scott days.

June 27, 1999 - Armed guards are brought into KPFA. The security company, IPSA, is the 4th largest in the country and has had clients such as ABC (against the NABET strikers) and the City of Atlanta. The bill may run as high as $300,000 per MONTH. Who is paying for this? Not Pacifica, because Pacifica doesn't have that kind of money. And if Pacifica is paying, how can they justify lack of funds as a reason for having no local news at KPFT and WPFW for the last 3 years. Tapes are being brought up secretly to Berkeley from Pacifica Archive as Chadwick prepares to shut down KPFA.

July 12, 1999 - Andrea Buffa at Media Alliance receives misdirected memo from Pacifica Board member Michael Palmer discussing plans to "shutdown and reprogram" KPFA and sell KPFA and/or WBAI. MF Berry comes to Berkeley and holds an invitation-only press conference, attempting to keep out reporters from media who have been critical.

July 13, 1999 - Dennis Bernstein broadcasts press conference where the Palmer memo is discussed. He is pursued by Pacifica's armed goons into the newsroom where his tussle with the goons is broadcast, interrupting the evening news. Garland Ganter, KPFT manager brought in to enforce the gag rule throws the switch and takes KPFA off the air. Tapes begin playing as hundreds converge on the station. 52 staff and community members, including Dennis Bernstein and the news staff, are arrested.

July 14, 1999 - Staff arrive to find KPFA locked and boarded up. They are informed that they are on "administrative leave." Democracy Now covers the story - and is again censored from Pacifica stations.

July 15,1999 - California legislators call for investigation into Pacifica finances, actions Camp KPFA is established outside the now boarded-up building

July 16, 1999 - FAIR calls for resignation of Pacifica Board and management. Counterspin segment on Pacifica censored by GM Mark Schubb at KPFK. Class action lawsuit filed to reverse hostile takeover of Pacifica

Daily protests continue as Communications Workers of America sets up picket around KPFA transmitter to prevent installation of an ISDN line that would allow programming to be fed in from another station.

July 18, 1999 - Berkeley PD swoops down on Camp KPFA in the middle of the night and makes mass arrests. Camp is back the following day.

July 19, 1999 - Huge benefit concert with Joan Baez and others organized on a few days notice sells out.

Statements of solidarity come from many groups, protests continue. Protests in solidarity are held at WBAI and KPFK.

July 22, 1999 - Pacifica hires Fineman and associates - high priced PR firm to do damage control

July 26, 1999 - Daily protests begin outside Fineman and Associates.

July 27, 1999 - Berkeley City council hold special session. Calls for Board resignations and return of KPFA to community control. City will contribute to lawsuit, file amicus brief. Police are instructed to facilitate peaceful protests. Pacifica Board holds conference call discussing sale of KPFA.

July 28, 1999 National Board member Pete Bramson goes public - reveals Pacifica Board executive committee will hold secret meeting that day to vote on sale of KPFA. Pacifica almost bankrupt as a result of the Boards expenditures in the cover-up. Adding insult to injury, they discuss taking a $5 million dollars loan with KPFA's frequency as collateral.

July 29, 1999 - Foiled by the Bramson revelation, MF Berry sidesteps mediators, goes to press with statement that KPFA will reopen and staff should return. Claims staff may "run the station." Denies sale in progress. This is a ploy to deflect attention from sale exposure.

July 30, 1999 - Fineman quits. KPFA staff are admitted into building. An estimated $30K's worth of damage has been done to the facilities and studios by IPSA goons

July 31, 1999 - More than 10,000 march in Berkeley in support of KPFA and Free Speech radio - call for removal of Pacifica Board

Demonstrations are now occurring at every Pacifica station - a nationwide day of action is called for August 17

August 12, 1999 - RadioNation and KPFK host Marc Cooper leads the charge to purge KPFK LAB members opposing hostile takeover of Pacifica.

. . . To Be Continued

Under the Volvano
A Festival of Art and Social Change

Stephanie Guilloud

Basically, the Canadians have their shit together. I don't know if it's something in the water, a higher conscienced media, or maybe living in a country that is not brazenzly imperialistic and evil. Pathetic US-Americans resort to weak jokes about cheese or the number of eh's in a sentence because we just can't compete. August 7-8 Vancouver, BC hosted an all day conference, a reclaim the streets action party, and a giant music and arts festival in Cates Park. The theater and conference was gearing up for a massive demonstration on August 10th against Northamerican Aerospace Trade Convention, whose major emphasis is on military aviation technology. 500 exhibitors came to do business with government and defense industry delegates from eighty countries. The Canadians were ready.

Following the conference, the organizers and jeerleaders led a successful reclaim the streets actions with puppets, drumming, fire twirlers, and live music.

I attended the conference and Festival and worked with dynamic organizers on street theater and on building networks opposed to the World Trade Organization (WTO). I couldn't be there for the Tuesday demonstration. My eighteen year old brother from Houston, TX came with me, and though he had never heard of crusty punks before, at these kind of events everyone fits in. We had a great time.

The Saturday conference called 'Relearning Resistance' focused on anti-war workshops and panels, workshops on the WTO, films, indigenous sovereignty, and other topics. The radical jeerleaders made an appearance spicing up Mike Dolan's address, a Public Citizen organizer rousing the NGO crowd for the November WTO ministerial meeting. The best aspect of the conference was the space to connect with other organizers and activists from British Colombia and the US West Coast.

Following the conference, the organizers and jeerleaders led a successful reclaim the streets actions with puppets, drumming, fire twirlers, and live music. The police watched, we negotiated to let the buses pass, but they never threatened to stop the event. We took over a major intersection for about twenty minutes and then returned to party in the streets in front of a park for another hour and a half. When people told the cops we were taking back our streets, they replied, "Okay, but not forever." One cop asked if he started dancing to the music, maybe he could lead the crowd off the streets into the park. One of the jeerleaders said, maybe, but only if all the cops start dancing. The law enforcement officer responded, "I'll work on it." We made an offer to do a cop exchange, the Canadians said we could have theirs, but they didn't want ours. We danced and chalked the streets and dispersed. One of the businesses we were blocking was pretty angry, another said they liked the excitement.

The next day Cates Park held a giant music festival with two stages, a kids zone, two daytime raves, a poetry stage tucked back in the woods, and a video tent. Under the Volcano was celebrating its 10th anniversary. It started out as a 300 person event and for the last five years has drawn around 8,000 people. It was amazing to participate in an arts and music event with a very radical political edge. The environment was incredibly supportive. Political tables lined one edge of the park, and people were actually talking and networking with the organizations! I love Canada!

I definitely recommend putting aside time to make it up there next year, or better yet, we could start organizing the kind of events that foster a culture of resistance, tolerance, and immense pleasure here in the United States. Maybe once we get that cop exchange rolling. ◆

With puppets, flags, and music, we took over Commercial Street, a major artery in Vancouver, B.C

After a long day of theory and discussion, people partied all night in the streets

The WTO corporate Boss and its Death Assistant "Free Trade" kill the Clean Air Act in a street theater performance at the festival.

World Trade Organization

FREE *(to exploit people &nature)* ***TRADE***

Part II in a four part series leading up to the November meeting of the WTO

The World Trade Organization: The Agenda for Seattle

Michael MacSems

THE WTO IN SEATTLE

When the WTO countries meet in Seattle (Nov 29 - Dec 2), they will finalize a "Ministerial Declaration" that will announce the future WTO agenda. At the end of the "Uruguay Round" of negotiations (1986-94), WTO members agreed to form committees to consider agriculture, services and intellectual property rights (now called the built-in agenda). Now some countries want to add investment (the MAI), procurement and competition policy, calling for the launch of a "Millennium Round" of negotiations. Whatever the future negotiations might be agreed, further deregulation favoring private interest can be anticipated.

The European Union wants to launch a Millennium Round in Seattle. The U.S. favors the more limited built-in agenda. Some developing countries are strongly opposed to further negotiations since deregulation and privatization have hurt them. They oppose a new Round and call for a turn-around of the WTO, a theme which is being echoed by a growing consensus of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and activist world wide.

The following is a list and short description of the built-in and new agenda items. This list is adapted from a pamphlet titled "A Citizen's Guide to the World Trade Organization" by the Working Group on the WTO/MAI. Copies can be purchased for $1.00 from Traditions Fair Trade in downtown Olympia.

BUILT-IN AGENDA:

TRIPS (Trade-Related Intellectual Property Agreement):

This agreement designed to set enforceable global rules on patents, copyrights and trademarks.

The pharmaceutical industry exercised heavy influence on TRIPS negotiations. As a result, the final TRIPS pact requires countries to adopt U.S.-style intellectual property laws, such as those granting monopoly sales rights to individual patent holders for extended time periods. TRIPS requires nations like India, Argentina and Brazil to abandon many policies that help them develop local pharmaceutical production and make drugs affordable and available to poor people.

Whatever the future negotiations might be agreed, further deregulation favoring private interest can be anticipated. Some developing countries are strongly opposed to further negotiations since deregulation and privatization have hurt them.

Pharmaceutical companies hope that new WTO intellectual property negotiations will enable them to tighten the rules even further, with developing countries losing the modest options left to make essential medicines, including those for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, more available.

SPS (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards):

This agreement sets constraints on government policies relating to food safety (bacterial contaminants, pesticides, inspection, labeling) and animal and plant health (imported pest, diseases).

The SPS goes well beyond forbidding discrimination between domestic and foreign goods. It also sets limits on the level of safety a country can choose, even if it applies equally to domestic and foreign goods. For instance, the SPS rules undercut countries' use of the "Precautionary Principle," which call for policies to err on the side of precaution when there is not yet scientific certainty about potential threats to human health and the environment. The SPS rules, on the other hand, err on the side of protecting trade flows at all cost.

Some chilling actions already taken highlight the dangers in the SPS. The WTO ruling that the European Union must eliminate its ban on hormone treated beef has already eviscerated the Precautionary Principle. Although exotic pest are second only to habitat loss a cause of species extinction, SPS requires that governments "prove" that a potential pest is harmful before safeguards can be applied. The WTO has declared that an obscure and corporately financed organization call Codex Alimentarius should be the arbiter of food safety standards world wide. This move is seen as a significant threat to hard-won consumer protection laws. Even worse, the Clinton Administration now argues that SPS rules restrict a country's right to label products with product information that consumers care about (e.g. "organic or genetic manipulation).

GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services):

Services, as in "goods and services," includes nearly all economic activity not involving manufactured goods, raw materials and farm products. Since many services such as patient care and teaching, require person-to-person interaction, it used to be almost a truism that services would remain localized. No longer. Today banking, insurance, and data management have all become part of the local economy.

GATS is one of 15 earlier agreements now enforced under the WTO. GATS

(Continued next page)

The Roots of The World Trade Organization

Michael MacSems

One evening late in November 1994, a lame-duck session of Congress, followed by the Senate ratified legislation that allowed the United States to become a signatory to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and therefor ensured that the fledgling organization would be politically viable. In January of 1995 the World Trade Organization's name replaced that of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) over the door of the organization's Geneva headquarters.

Nearly five years have now elapsed since the WTO was established and a litany of anti-environmental, anti-labor, anti-public health and anti-democratic rulings have since issued from that body's secretive grievance tribunal. As mentioned last month, WTO tribunal decisions have compromised the U.S. Clean Air Act, the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act (regarding dolphins) and the U.S. Endangered Species Act (regarding sea turtles). In Europe, the WTO has ruled against the right of European countries to ban the importation of hormone laced meat and to set aside a very small percentage of their banana market for growers in former colonies (threatening the existence of 200,000 family farmers).

But how did this come to be? According to Mark Ritchie, the Director of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, the WTO is a legacy of the Reagan administration. In Maria Gilardin's 1994 radio documentary, "The Secret Side of Free Trade," Ritchie out lines the roots of the WTO.

Ritchie traces the WTO's origins back to the Bretton Woods Conference of 1944. It was from those meetings that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank were created. Thinkers such as economic architect John Manard Keyes believed that the World Wars and many other military conflicts were largely the product of commercial rivalries between nations. Originally, the IMF and World Bank were to be joined by a third institution called the International Trade Organization (ITO) that Keyes envisioned as a global mechanism to check the activities of the emerging multinational corporations which might lead to war. Keyes also proposed some anti-trust regulations, including a mechanism by which the corporations could be administered and regulated between countries as they were already becoming larger than the countries that they operated from. The largely progressive ITO was killed in the U.S. Senate. As a sort of half-measure the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was established instead to tinker with tariffs and little else.

WTO tribunal decisions have compromised the U.S. Clean Air Act, the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act and the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

Cut to 1972: Richard Nixon is looking for a way to shift the balance of power from Congress to the Executive Branch. While treaties required a 2/3rds vote of the Senate (with open debate and opportunities to make amendments) to be enacted, the Nixon administration devised a modest proposal that would allow the Executive to negotiate trade agreements in secret and then bring them to Congress for a simple majority vote with no amendments. This devise was called "Fast Track" and since trade negotiations at that time were limited to tariffs the proposal was considered non-controversial.

When Reagan came to power his administration began looking for more ways to circumvent the entrenched Democratic Congress. The White House soon realized that if they could define a policy or law as affecting trade they could legally claim the right to negotiate such polices under Fast Track. One little understood aspect of international trade agreements is that they require domestic implementing legislation to bring local, state and federal laws into compliance with such agreements. With this discovery Ritchie says that the Reagan Administration became like "kids in a candy store." The White House worked to use the trade negotiations process to change domestic law and to overturn or turn back years of progress concerning health, safety, and workers rights and lock in the deregulation of concentration of power that characterize the Reagan-Bush years.

With the relatively quiet passage of the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement of 1988, which incorporated new concepts in trade law such as "Technical Barriers to Trade," (or non- tariff barriers) soon Canada began challenging U.S. laws prohibiting the use of asbestos in the workplace and the U.S. began challenging Canada's pesticide residue laws.

In 1994, using the Fast Track procedure (modified for a 60% majority in the Senate) the U.S. agreed to join the WTO. This new organization turns the vision of the ITO on its head. Instead of regulating multinational corporations for the public good, it regulates the public for the good of the world's largest corporations. Instead of enshrining the ability of the people, through representative government to mitigate the less desirable aspects of a market economy, it enshrines the supremacy of market forces over the rights and responsibilities of representative government. ◆

(WTO, continued)

calls for continuing negotiations, although major telecommunications and financial services deregulation agreements have already been completed in the last four years. There is a movement from industry and the U.S. to include coverage of health care and education under WTO rules. Explicit coverage of water and water systems may also be included.

The Agreement on Agriculture:

The WTO has already established a set of rules on international food trade and on domestic ag polices. These rules have accelerated the rapid concentration of agribusiness and undercut poor countries' ability to maintain food self-sufficiency through subsidence agriculture.

WTO rules assume that rather then being self-sufficient in food, countries will buy their food in international markets using money used from exports. During the WTO's first four years, the prices of agricultural commodities fell to record lows, while food prices remained high. This system hurts both farmers and consumers and paves the way for large corporations to dominate markets, especially in poor countries. New rules need to address the rapid concentration in agribusiness.

NEW ISSUES:

MAI in the WTO:

The Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) aimed to set strict global rules limiting governments' right and ability to regulate currency speculation, investment in land, factories, services, stocks and more. It was negotiated in secret for two years at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), a group of 29 of the world's wealthiest nations. Negotiations were pushed by multi-national corporations and business lobbies worldwide.

In 1997, the deal started to unravel when activist exposed the potential power grab. By December 1998, the OECD ceased negotiations. Now many OECD countries led by the European Union, want to revive the MAI by putting it in the WTO.

Global Free Logging Agreement:

The Clinton Administration as made it a priority to have a "forest products" agreement signed in Seattle. The proposed Global Free Logging Agreement" would expand global consumption of paper, pulp and other wood products by 3-4% says industry. It also would restrict certain pro-environmental government polices. It could pose a major threat to endangered forests, eco-systems and biodiversity. Eliminating tariffs on forest products will result in an increase in consumption and logging at a time when the world's native forest are facing extinction.

Negotiations could also threaten important environment rules that the WTO considers to be non-tariff barriers to trade: for example, the federal ban on the export of raw logs from most public lands which was created in part to protect endangered forest. Popular eco-labeling or certification policies which require tropical rainforest wood purchased by government to be sustainably harvested, could also be considered non-tariff barriers.

Competition Policy:

Transnational corporations (TNCs) view efforts by governments to foster local economic development by restricting TNC's access to local markets as being an- anti-competitive practice. With the support of the European Union, TNCs want new absolute rights to enter and operate in any country to be agreed to in the proposed Millennium Round. Proponents cynically argue that local firms, especially in developing countries will "benefit" by becoming more efficient when facing competition from abroad. In reality, removing governments ability to avoid monopolization of markets by huge TNCs will only lead to more of the takeovers, mergers and other consolidation of industry that is undermining real competition.

Government Procurement:

The current WTO already includes rules on how governments can spend our tax dollars. Under these rules, governments can not take political, social, environmental, or justice issues into account when deciding what or from whom to buy. Basically, the rules forbid all non-economic considerations, such as preferences for recycled paper or bans on products from certain nations. However, unlike all of the other rules enforced by the WTO, not every country was required to sign on to the original procurement rules which cover 26 countries and some U.S. states.

Now some countries want these rules to become compulsory for all WTO members (and all sub-jurisdictions therein) in the proposed "Millennium Round" of negotiations. Local, state and federal governments use procurement to achieve domestic policy goals from increasing local employment to awarding contracts to firms owned by women or minorities to spur economic development in these groups. TNCs are attacking these programs and polices as interfering with the "free" market. If TNCs get their way, government purchasers will join the race to the bottom.

Getting Involved Locally

If you wish to get involved locally in planning citizen's response and protest to the WTO agenda, contact the Olympia Network Opposed to the WTO at 754-9585. ◆

(Labor Day, continued)

unions.

Race, gender, ethnicity, education, attitude don't make a difference - a worker is a worker. A job is a job. It doesn't make sense to ignore our fears, our racism, our homophobia - we have to deal with them, together. And we can do that. If we look each other in the face and recognize ourselves there. If we mistrust those who teach difference and hate, and look behind the slogans that only sound patriotic or religious. If we are together, we are strong and we don't have to act like brutes or fools. We can make peace, finally, with the Native Americans and insist the treaties be honored. We can stop the violence in our homes.

We are, after all, workers and we made the world of cars and shirts and books. We created it; the bridge, the dance, the commercial, the bar of soap, the airplane. We aren't saints and we aren't fools. We know that we share the same concerns of dignity and basic survival that all workers have, wherever they may happen to live on the planet. We know our standard of living is based significantly on the suffering of other peoples - their low wages, their servitude. That our military, like our police, are out there to protect property first, human rights a distant second, and its not our property being protected. And we know the police and the solidiers are workers too.

We labor, even though we are afraid of losing our jobs. Ignoring that fear causes us to blame the people who don't have jobs for being poor. Causes us to look away while masses of people from our cities are thrown in prison.

Its the children who suffer. From poverty and neglect. Workers work for their children, to feed and protect them. We've always done that. We want to feel safe so that we can make our children safe, all children safe and loved. Maybe we need to think about what keeps us apart and meditate on the power we have together.

Well, we work on. We have no choice. We are beautiful in our labor. ◆

The Olympia Food Co-op

Locally Owned and Operated by Your Friends and Neighbors

Announcing "Fast Food" that is good for you from the...

Olympia Food Co-op East
Salad & Sandwich Bar
Open 11:00 - 7:00 Daily

Now Two Locations to Serve You!
The Olympia Food Co-op
921 N Rogers, 754-7666
Olympia Food Co-op East
3111 Pacific, 956-3870

Open every day! 9 AM to 8 PM

"Providing a voice of power and dignity for state employees for over 50 years."

The Washington Federation of State Employees AFSCME • AFL-CIO

Make your impact on the World!

Washington Federation of State Employees
AFSCME • AFL-CIO
PO Box 105 Olympia, WA 98507 Phone 943-1624

Thoughts on Eurocentric Colonialist Environmentalism and Progressivism

Arthur Miller

There is a growing problem of white chauvinism within the environmental and progressive movements which is turning some into nothing more than a continuation of eurocentric colonialism. Some of those involved in this trend realize the reality of their actions, others are heading in that direction because the ignorance brought about by the conditioning of the dominant eurocentric society. It is my hope that my words can begin a process of awareness to help reverse this reactionary tread.

All people come from indigenous roots. Many people today have been cut off from those roots by the eurocentric process of assimilation. Though it is true that the process of colonialist assimilation was not first seen in what is now called Europe and there are other forms of that process today in different parts of the world, still the eurocentric form is by far the most dominating and has become the greatest threat to the well-being and survival of the people of the world and to Mother Earth herself.

The eurocentric colonialist process started in Europe long ago. It assimilated the people into Nation States in which the rulers sought to control by the use of authorities in all aspects of the people's lives and to accumulate the greatest amount of wealth as possible. That which it could not assimilate the process sought to destroy. All resistance to the process was met with brutal repression.

Whereas, indigenous tribalism was based for the most part on common needs and the well-being of the tribe, the eurocentric process was based upon accumulation of power and wealth at the expense of the people and the natural world. Out of necessity indigenous tribalism sought to live in balance with the natural world. For in that balance the well-being of the people was found.

The assimilation of needs and social interaction into the control of authorities has almost been complete. Political interaction became controlled by the authority of the Nation State. Religion became controlled by the authorities of the institutionalized churches. The economy became controlled by the authority of the profiteers. The control over education, knowledge, science and ideas became the property of the authorities of the intelligentsia. Information became controlled by the authority of the ruling media. The people no longer defined who and what they are, rather all things are defined for them by some authority.

Culture which originally was a bonding among groups of people has been developed by the eurocentric process into a commodity to be bought and sold.

All aspects of life has been divided up into singular items or issues, under the control of some authority. Those with different views and interests on each item or issue compete for control and thus to become the authority.

Since the eurocentric system is based upon control and accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few at the expense of the many, that process developed protections for the privileged few. The bottomline protection has always been the force of might. That force of might has been developed to the point of weapons that can destroy all in the protection of a few.

Other protections were also developed. Since the eurocentric system was a hierarchical system it developed classes of people and all that were assimilated were given their "place". Barriers were put into place that made it nearly impossible for people to rise up the hierarchical system.

To justify this system, to help protect it and to help it expand it the idea of superiority was created. The following is how superiority became to be viewed. The ruling class was superior in all things to all else. The privilege of superiority gave them the right to control, exploit, or act upon anything that was in their interest to do so. Since the ruling class was white that meant the white race was superior to the other races. Since the ruling class was male, that meant the male sex was the superior sex. Since the ruling class originated in what became Europe (mostly Western Europe) then the eurocentric cultural, religion, knowledge, economics and so on was superior. To them the privilege of superiority gave them the right to define all things.

The eurocentric system does not function in harmony within itself. There has always been and there will always be social conflict.

The other classes within this system were conditioned to view themselves as superior to the classes below them. This was an important controlling factor and the reason why racism, sexism and ethnic bigotry became so institutionalized. And again the privilege of superiority was in having rights over those viewed as inferior.

A major part of the assimilation process is the making the people dependent upon the system for all things, survival, education, health, culture, religion, legal remedies and so on. As they became more dependent their indigenous self-sufficiency became more lost. As that happened they became more identified with their class than with their true natural function in the world. You can see this very clearly within much of the left. They speak of the working class as those that are employed by the employing class rather than those whose function in society is to produce through work the needs of society. In other words they identify with their exploitation and not their function. So when they speak of the working class struggle they speak of the struggle as, what many call "wage slaves". But if they were to identify with their function they would see the connection between them and those who also work but are yet to be assimilated. From that viewpoint the resistance to being exploited and the resistance to being assimilated into the system of exploitation is the same struggle.

The divisions of classes or groups of people is not just about economics. It is also about the attempt to destroy indigenous roots and thus allow for assimilation. Thus you have the grouping of people by race or ethnic background. All people from Africa have become African Americans, Native people have become Native Americans. This has been a well defended attempt to strip indigenous roots. For an example, even though the U.S. Government signed treaties with sovereign indigenous tribes, the administration of the affairs is done by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and not by a Bureau of Lakota Affairs or a bureau of affairs with any other sovereign tribes.

The groupings of people are also placed with the hierarchical eurocentric system. This has come to mean that white people are higher up and have more privilege and people of color are lower down in the system and have less "rights", in all things are viewed as inferior (except where it profits the system), and their needs and concerns are less important.

The eurocentric system does not function in harmony within itself. There has always been and there will always be social conflict. But since the conditioning has made people view the elements in society individually rather than the reality that all things are connected, the social conflict does not become a threat to the overall eurocentric system. The system has learn to assimilate much of the conflict and some of it has even become a source of further profit making. Those parts of conflict that is viewed as too dangerous to assimilate is crushed.

Because of the eurocentric conditioning of eurocentric superiority, individualization of 'issues', authority control and so on, the white environmental and progressive movements tend to be a continuation of the process rather than an agent of real social change. Mostly this is not something that they do on purpose, but rather because their conditioning does not allow them to see the whole process as one big picture. Because of this they tend to place their individual 'issues' as superior or more important, and with that superiority comes the privilege of attaining what they want at the expense of others. This is why, for example, you will find environmentalists blaming Native people, working people and so on for the environmental problems created by the system itself. Or having those people make sacrifices rather than those that are creating and profiting for the problems.

Nobody has all the answers to how things must be turned around in order to create real social change. Hell I ain't done asking all the questions yet, so I don't have all the answers. But to me there is a clear direction to proceed in which the answers will be found.

We must begin with the understanding that the overall eurocentric colonialist system is harmful to all people and to Mother Earth. This system is heading us in the direction of an abyss of social and environmental suicide. Within that eurocentric system as in the natural world all things are connected. The way the system treats humans is also the way it treats everything else including Mother Earth. Humans are not above or outside of the environment, but rather, no matter what they like to think, they are just one part of it and are dependent upon it to survive. Thus, dealing with human conditions is as much a part of dealing with environmental conditions as is dealing with the destruction of land, water and air. That makes fighting racism, for an example, an environmental struggle. So, in reality you cannot create real social change at the expense of others without being nothing more than a continuation of the problem. All things are connected.

Though it is impossible to directly struggle on all the harmful effects of the system at the same time, but in our struggles we should not place our struggle as superior to others and in time of need stand in solidarity with other struggles.

I do not advocate "white guilt" for the reason why white people should support the struggles of people of color. Rather I advocate two things; 1. That all people, outside of the rulers, have been victimized by the eurocentric system and that they should join in common struggle against that which has victimized them. 2. That the eurocentric conditioning keeps white people along with others stuck in their victimization and it has them victimizing others in the interest of the system. So for those reasons the white progressive movements need to learn to step out of that conditioning and also not use it to continue the oppression of people of color.

People need to directly deal with their own oppressions. White people are not oppressed by race, but the oppression by race, all things are connected, is a means of controlling all communities. So white activists need to struggle against racism in their own communities and stand in solidarity with other communities when needed. Since the groupings of people of color is one of the means of their oppression and those groupings are created to strip them of their own self-control, then to regain what has been lost to them the struggle for self-determination of their communities is paramount in the struggle against the eurocentric system. And self-determination means beyond the control of even the white radicals.

The struggle of the remaining indigenous peoples is the frontline of turning back the colonialist eurocentric assimilation. This is important to all movements for surely we as a society will have reached the abyss at the point of complete assimilation. Though those who have lost their indigenous roots cannot just join those who still have them, indigenous tribalism is not like joining a political party or church, still we they can learn from them of how to set a direction to regain that which has been lost.

Though we all struggle for day to day things, we must create a resistance mentality that brings in all aspects of life. That includes everything that the system oppresses us with, be it in the home, our place of work, school, culture, all of the environment and so on. Upon that resistance mentally and the joining together as a collective resistance, through that power we can create the great refusal to function for the system and rebuild society based upon the restored living in balance with Mother Earth, including with each other. This would be discarding the values of the eurocentric colonialist system of greed at the expense of others and Mother Earth and replacing it with the values of respect, balance, self-determination and the well-being of all. ◆

(Death Penalty, continued)

oughly. When we do we will make more thoughtful public policy decisions.

Another goal of the survey was to identify strong and weak arguments for and against the death penalty. The survey showed that voters who oppose the death penalty did not find any of the pro-death penalty arguments persuasive, but voters who support or were undecided about the death penalty were troubled by courts applying the death penalty inconsistently and the prospect of putting innnocent people to death.

The survey was designed and conducted by the Olympia Fellowship fo Reconciliation (FOR). The Olympia FOR has worked nonviolently since 1976 on a variety of peace and social justice issues. It is the local affiliate of a broadly interfaith, international pacifist organization founded in 1914.

The Olympia FOR invites all to a potluck dinner and program where you will learn about and celebrate the results of this survey, thank the two dozen volunteers who conducted the survey, and consider future activities:

Wednesday, September 8th
6pm Potluck
7pm Program
Olympia Friends Meeting House
219 B Street, Tumwater

For information about the survey, efforts to abolish the death penalty, or the FOR, call Glen at 943-9093.

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:
Friday, Sept. 17th

Proofreading Meeting
Tuesday, September 28th
6:30pm at Olympia Library
Everyone Welcome!

PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
phone/fax (360) 705-2726
wip@olywa.net

Another Write-Up .. For Rapping!

Mumia Abu-Jamal

On Thursday, August 12th, 1999, I finally got through on a call I had been trying to complete all week long: to Amy Goodman, the host of the acclaimed Pacifica news broadcast, "Democracy Now!", aired over WBAI-FM, in New York City, and over the Network, nationally. I was thrilled to get through, and, as her topic was the buzz over the imminent release of 16 Puerto-Rican Independentista political prisoners, its was a perfect opportunity to express solidarity for the brave and committed Puerto-Rican freedom fighters, who have suffered enormously in their long imprisonment at the hands of their cruel American colonizers. After speaking with relatives and loved ones of the Independentistas, Amy calmly announced to her listeners that she had a guest on the line (me) who might offer a few opinions on the controversy. It went something like this:

AG [Amy Goodman]: On the line now from a state correctional institution in Pennsylvania, after considerable difficulty, is our guest, Mumia Abu-Jamal, convicted in the murder of Philadelphia police officer, Daniel Faulkner, in 1981; in a trial that many have condemned as riddled with constitutional, and other errors.. Mumia, welcome to Democracy Now.

MAJ: Thank you, Amy, it is my pleasure to be with you all at Democracy Now!

AG: Now, Mumia, I'm sure you've heard about the controversy that we're discussing this morning; the imminent release of some 16 PR political prisoners, under certain conditions...have you heard?

MAJ: Yeah, well, I did see some mention on this on the TV, and these are my thoughts on the issue: Under the constitution, one is allegedly allowed the rights of association. For these brothers and sisters, freedom ain't really freedom is it? First I wanna say: Libertad para los presos politicos de Puertoriqueno! Yes, "Free all Puerto-Rican Political Prisoners!" Yeah! We're with that! But, under the U.S. government's plan, they will be granted a kind of half-freedom; they won't be allowed to associate with each other, so their freedom of association is dead. Also, one of the other conditions that the government is placing upon them is the demand that they 'renounce violence.' Now, Amy-where have we heard this before? If we look at recent world history we'll see that that was exactly the same thing that the racist government of South Africa demanded of Nelson Mandela and other imprisoned members of the ANC....

At this moment, my phone line went dead, as a guard pulled the wire from the phone jack on the wall, disconnecting me. Another guard appeared at the cell door hollering at the top of his lungs: "This call is terminated!" When I demanded to know why, he replied, "This order cam down from the very top!" I immediately called to the Sgt. standing by and looking on, "Sgt! Where did this order come from?"

He shrugged his shoulders, answering, "I dunno. We just got a phone call to cut you off."

The next day, the answer came in the form of a write-up; #A69958, where I am charged with a Class I Misconduct: Unauthorized Use of the Mail or Telephone. In the write-up, the following institutional offenses are stated:

> On August 12, 1999, at 0936 hours, Inmate Jamal made a telephone call to a news radio station named Pacifica Radio Network's Democracy Now. Per DC-ADM 009 News Media Relations, it states News Media requests for inmate interviews by telephone shall be approved at the discretion of the Facility Manager. Inmate Jamal did not request from the Facility Manager permission to be interviewed by the news media. In addition, inmate Jamal placed a news reporter on his IPIN list knowing full well that the person was a reporter. This is verified by the attached documentation. Also, per DC ADM 6.5.8, all communications between Capital Case inmates and the news media shall be conducted in accordance with DOC and institutional policies on visitation and telephone privileges. It should be noted inmate telephone calls are a privilege. As a result of inmate Jamal not requesting permission from the Facility Manager to be interviewed or speak with the news media, his telephone call was terminated after 11 minutes of speaking with the news media.

This write-up was signed by a Lt. and a Captain of the guards.

In order to produce this write-up, ranking staff members had to ignore their own rules; for example DC-ADM 009-1, Nov. 11, 1996, which states:

> News media are entitled to the same access to specific inmates as the general public. There shall be no special arrangements made for news media interviews with specific inmates. All communications between specific inmates and the news media shall be conducted in accordance with the DC-ADM 812 (Inmate visiting Privileges) and the DC-ADM 818 (Inmate Telephone Calls).... [d] If an inmate wants to talk with a news media representative over the telephone, it is his responsibility to place a collect call to the reporter under guidelines set forth in DC-ADM 818 - Inmate Telephone Calls.

There are rules-and there are rules, it seems, especially when the state deals with Mumia Abu-Jamal. Here, the DOC writes me up, using a rule that no longer exists! But since when have rules gotten in the way of corrupt bureaucracies which follow the foul winds of the political masters?

Clearly, we are not working with 'rules': we are working with the state's exercise of its political power to censor a captive who they, once again, have acted to silence. But, like before, it ain't working. I thank Amy and her fervent politically adept listeners at "Democracy Now!" for that great opportunity to show solidarity. You keep on listening...I'll keep on rapping! ◆

Clearly, we are not working with 'rules': we are working with the state's exercise of its political power to censor a captive who they, once again, have acted to silence.

Jane Jervis to be Recipient of Civil Libertarian Award

The Evergreen State College President Jane Jervis will be awarded the ACLU of Washington's Civil Libertarian Award.

The award is presented to persons who have made outstanding contributions to civil liberties, and the ACLU of Washington will recognize President Jervis for defending the students' choice of Mumia Abu-Jamal as one of their speakers at the 1999 graduation commencement. The award will be presented at the Bill of Rights dinner on November 20, 1999.

Justice for Mumia Abu-Jamal Mumia Awareness Week: September 19-25

"Every generation should have a moral assignment, and one of ours must be justice for Mumia Abu-Jamal."
- Ossie Davis

There is a growing awareness that the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal is a travesty of justice. His case has become the focus of a growing international movement. The issues bound up in this case include the death penalty, racial bias in the U.S. criminal justice system, and the punishment of political dissent. Where people stand on this case has become a benchmark of where they stand on social justice.

The case of Mumia Abu-Jamal is now in the federal courts. This is the year of decision. Hence we call for a week for justice, September 19-25, to prevent an unjust execution from putting a stain on society for decades to come.

To project the questions surrounding this case onto a national scale, we call on all people and organizations concerned with justice and human rights to examine this case, to develop plans and materials, to take up this issue to their communities and constituencies, and to make plans to contribute to this week for justice.

This week will include a wide variety of national and local initiatives around Mumia's case, culminating in a day of activities in 100 cities. The effect will be to make this case, and the issues bound up in it, into a household word and a political dividing line in the United States and internationally.

To obtain a list of organizations planning activities for this week, or to obtain the list of cities with "100 Cities for Mumia" activities planned, contact:

Mumia Awareness Week (PO Box) 511 Avenue of the Americas, #186 New York, NY 10011-8436 212-924-8585 http://www.j4mumia.org Check out our new website! Volunteers and funds urgently needed !

To give donations in support of the Mumia Awareness Week, please make checks out to the "Black United Fund - Mumia" with "September week" in the memo field. Mail to: Black United Fund, 2227 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19132-4502

Why Our Son, Larry Robison, is on Death Row

Lois Robison

My husband Ken and I are the Co-Directors of HOPE, a chapter of Texas CURE which deals with the issue of Capital Punishment. I am a retired third grade school teacher, and Ken is a college teacher. We have eight children (his, mine, and ours), and 15 grandchildren. We are just an average family except that our son is on Death Row.

Larry was first diagnosed as paranoid schizophrenic at Huguley Hospital in Fort Worth when he was 21 years old. Because our insurance no longer covered him, he was discharged. We were told to take him to John Peter Smith County Hospital where he was kept for 30 days and discharged because he was "not violent" and they "needed the bed." We were told that we should not take him home under any circumstances. When I said, "He has no job, no money, no car, and no place to stay, you can't just put him out on the street," I was told, "We do it every day. You would be surprised how many schizophrenics are on the streets. Most of them cope fairly well."

We took him to the Veteran's Hospital in Waco where they kept him for 30 days and discharged him. We were told he was not well and would get worse without treatment but they couldn't keep him any longer because he was "not violent" and they "needed the bed." If he became violent, we were told, he could get the long term treatment that everyone agreed he needed.

If he became violent, we were told, he could get the long term treatment that everyone agreed he needed.

The first and only violence he was ever accused of was killing five people. We were horrified, of course, and we thought he would finally be committed to a mental institution, probably for life. We were wrong. He was arrested, held a year without bail, not even given a competency hearing, and in spite of his medical history, found sane and sentenced to death.

The Appeals Court declared that he did not get a fair trial and ordered a new one. Again we showed his medical records and presented evidence to show that his natural father, who died of a brain tumor when Larry was two years old, had a brother, an uncle, and a grandfather who were all hospitalized with paranoid schizophrenia. A psychiatrist testified that this illness has a hereditary basis. The judge heard this evidence, but the DA objected so the jury was not allowed to hear it. Larry was again found sane, guilty, and sentenced to die.

In 1989 Larry's youngest sister was diagnosed as manic-depressive and schizo-affective. My cousin in Colorado told me that three of her six children are mentally ill (paranoid schizophrenic, manic-depressive). My mother's brother whom we were told had spent time in a TB sanitarium had really been in a mental institution. The latest medical research shows that mental illness is an organic brain disease that can be hereditary and can now usually be controlled with medication. Larry's attorney told me that this new evidence could not get Larry a new trial because new trials are based on legal technicalities involving the original trial.

The general public does not understand mental illness nor do juries, and the legal definition for insanity is so much more narrow than the medical that it is difficult to ever get an insanity ruling. I feel sure that the jury in both of Larry's trials must have realized that he was insane, but because Texas law does not allow for guaranteed long term confinement, they elected to have him executed. When the BBC interviewed the prosecuting attorney from Larry's first trial, he told the reporter that he knew that Larry was insane but that he thought the death penalty was appropriate in such cases.

Every few weeks we hear of yet another tragedy involving a person who is seriously mentally ill and has not received proper treatment. Some have been executed. How can a modern, civilized society choose to exterminate their ill citizens rather than treat them? Isn't necessary medical care a basic human right?

We believe that if people knew the facts, they would insist that all mentally ill persons get the medical help they need. Although most never become violent, the ones who have that potential can only be stopped by preventive treatment. The threat of punishment, even death, means nothing to an insane person. You can execute as many of them as you wish, and it will not stop the next one. If we really want to stop these most horrendous crimes, and be safe in our homes and on our streets, prevention is the only answer.

We were told repeatedly that treatment was not available because of lack of funding for mental health. We have had this fact proven to us in trying to get help for our youngest daughter. She is in a Mental Health-Mental Retardation program in our county. After being hospitalized and diagnosed as schizophrenic and manic-depressive she has been in outpatient programs, and residential programs. At this time she lives in HUD housing with a roommate because now there are no residential programs in Texas (except for temporary crisis care) unless the person is totally incapacitated. She has been hospitalized or sent to Crisis Care or the emergency room dozens of times in the last three years, but always within a few hours or a few days she is "stabilized" and sent back to HUD housing because there are no permanent residential programs for people in her classification in the state of Texas. We have been told not to bring her back home to live because if we do she will not have access to MHMR programs such as the workshop and social and medical programs. We feel like we have lived this all before.

In the last fourteen years since Larry was sent to Death Row we have met many families who have mentally ill or mentally retarded relatives in prison. Approximately one-third of the people on Death Row are mentally ill or retarded. The head prison doctor told us that there are more mentally ill in prison than there are in mental hospitals in Texas. Yet programs to treat mental illness would be less expensive than incarceration in prison and much less expensive than execution, which, costs approximately three million each. Many lives could be saved, both victims and accused. Also, the families and friends of both would be spared much suffering and heartache, and society as a whole would benefit from a safer and more humane world.

Larry's second appeal was turned down by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to review his case. His Habeas Corpus was denied in both state and federal courts. His appeal is now going to the Fifth Circuit Court. He has a good lawyer who really cares about him but because of the present political climate we know his chances are very poor.

Whatever happens in Larry's case, we are committed to changing our laws and agencies so that this kind of tragedy does not continue to happen to other people. If telling his story can prevent others from suffering and dying in the future, then all the pain will not be in vain.

Reprinted with premission from the Witness for Life, *the newsletter of Unitarian Universalists against the Death Penalty in Fort Worth, Texas.* ◆

Books To Prisoner Page

Robison Receives Stay of Execution

NAMI --The Texas Criminal Court of Appeals decision provides a breath of hope into a process that should never have come as far as it already has.

Both the five victims of senseless murder 17 years ago and Larry Robison highlight a mental health system's failure to provide adequate treatment when it was needed. The case also reveals the fundamental injustice of sentencing to death any person who suffers from a severe mental illness.

The Court's [August 17th] decision may mean only that Texas will be forced to provide the treatment previously denied Larry Robison until he becomes well enough to be executed. There will be no justice in such an outcome--only barbarism. The case will stand as an indictment of moral bankruptcy in both the mental health and criminal justice systems of the state.

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill can be reached at http://www.nami.org.

Books to Prisoners September Events

- Open drop in work/training sessions every Thurs. 3-9 pm in the back of the business formerly known as Bulldog News. *Training takes 1 hour. Once you are trained you can work anytime we are open.*
- **BTP Volunteer Potluck** - 3rd Sun. of the month (Sept18th), 3 pm at 116 E. 4th Ave, Olympia
- Turn in Bayview and Ralph's receipts. B to P receives 1%. Please send to the address below.
- **Save UPC code from Western Family Products &** send to B to P, 116 E 4th Ave, Olympia, WA 98501

Your Help Is Needed

Because of the huge number of letters Books for Prisoners-Olympia Support Group receives each month and its limited resources, requests often wait many months to be filled. Thousands of letters still remain in boxes. Your help and generousity are urgently needed.

If we desire individuals in this country's prisons to be caring, thoughtful and sympathetic, then we too need to be caring, thoughtful and sympathetic. We need to "walk the talk." Please donate your time, money or books.

In greatest demand are:

English, Spanish/English, Southeast Asian dictionaries, thesaurus, new almanaces, and GED books.

Frequently requested are:

African-American, Chicano/Latino, and Native American history and progressive U.S. history.

Please donate:

- Any other good books
- Stamps and stamp money
- Money for tape, wrapping paper, and copying

Please bring donations of books to the Books to Prisoner-Olympia office at the business formerly known as Bulldog New at 116 4th Ave in downtown Olympia

Please make checks payable to Books to Prisoners.

Hours: Currently, the business hours are from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm daily. After hours donations possible by appointment. Please call the message phone below and leave a message.

Address: Books to Prisoners , 116 4th Ave, Olympia WA 98501

Message Phone: (360)943-2375

LEFT BANK BOOKS COLLECTIVE
A Not-For-Profit Bookstore & Distribution Service Owned & Operated by its Workers
92 Pike Street, Seattle WA 98101
Tel & Fax: (206) 622-0195
-- Online Catalog at --
http://www.leftbankbooks.com/

Inmates — All correspondence to Books to Prisoners *must* go through the main branch:
Books to Prisoners
Left Bank Books
92 Pike Street
Seattle WA 98101

(Landfill, continued)

residents, but they can import whatever waste materials they choose to (pending the facility's permits), regardless of local or state sentiment, under the interstate commerce clause of the US constitution.

Such unbelievable quantities of garbage and the inherent risks associate current standards of its handling pose a serious problem for open space, the health of the communities, and that of the Earth. The reduction of our individual and collective waste streams, including those generated by manufacturers who produce for our consumption, is imperative in stabilizing the relationship with community development and ecological sustainability. Washington exceeds the national standards of materials recovery, recycling 48% of all refuse. However, with the closing of our county landfill, we cannot hesitate to recognize that it is not enough.

Three major opportunities for waste reduction in the public sector are: currently recyclable materials (paper being the material lease effectively recycled), composting food/yard wastes, and salvaging building materials. "Second use Building Materials" at 210 Thurston Avenue is establishing a receiving area at Hawks Prairie to accept household and construction materials no longer in use; they can be contacted at 709-2769. Approximately 20% of the national waste stream is municipal solid waste, industry and government produce 80%. We must exercise our influence as consumers and investors, demanding that companies respect the communities in which they produce and implement more effective waste minimization programs.

Without putting previously used materials back into production we cannot assume sustainable production. Meanwhile we must reform the current methodologies of waste siting and treatment. Corporations should be made accountable to the communities in which they function, however we should be held equally as responsible for our by-products. By handling our own waste locally we set a precedent for its appropriate management, eliminating the shift of responsibility. The transfer of waste as a commodity offers an option of denying its presence and potential hazards, while unfairly distributing those concerns to others.

Currently there are two great local opportunities to promote waste minimization and appropriate "waste" management. Evergreen is currently working on establishing a site for a composting facility to handle all of the college's food residuals. Thurston County is reviewing its solid waste plan. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) is desperately in need of community participation and motivation to engage in a proactive wasted reduction campaign. Thurston County has done a great job, with the curbside recycling program, to divert considerable amounts of refuse. What needs to happen now is to increase the level of business participation and waste reduction. Help take responsibility: you can get involved with the Thurston County SWAC by calling Michelle Arnold at 786-5136. To get in touch with community members concerned about locally produced waste contact Media Island International at 352-8526 and leave your contact information. ◆

Briefs, continued

tions available in writing, book and movie reviews, webmastering, photography, illustration, proofreading, layout, and more. Receive college credit as an intern. One quarter minimum, but two quarters preferable; there's a lot to learn! Contact Wendy at 705-2726 or wip@olywa.net for more information.

In Search of the Big Picture

A video presentation will be held on Sept. 21st at 7pm at Traditions. The title is *Touching Peace : An evening with Thich Nhat Hanh.* (90 minutes) "The best way to take care of the future is to take care of the present moment...everything that is wonderful must be touched in the present moment." Filmed before an audience of 3500. Thich Nhat Hanh speaks intimately and insightfully, touching deeply on community building, connecting with your roots, arriving in each moment, learning true love.

Followed with discussion, selection of next month's video. Refreshments available. Free admission.

A Road Map for Natural Capitalism

A book by Amory B. Lovins, L. Hunter Hovins, and Paul Hawken will be discussed for seven sessions this fall. If you think of yourself as being on the leading edge of corporate globalization, sustainable environment, or global climate change, please participate in this book discussion. Planetary sustainability is the name of the game. Learn how and why: Thursdays, Sept. 23-Nov. 4, from 7-9pm in the Susan B. Anthony room of the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2200 East End NW, Olympia. To register, call co-leaders Ramona Hinkle, Fellowship of Reconciliation, 491-5483 or Meta Heller, Social Justice Committee, OUUC, 352-9507.

Safeplace: Rape Relief and Women's Shelter Services

Now recruiting dedicated volunteers. Application deadline is September 15. Volunteer training begins October 4. We need your time, talents and experience for: counseling and referral, working with youth, answering crisis line calls, facilitating support groups, community outreach, fundraising, office work, and more. For more information, call 786-8754 V/TTY.

Crisis Clinic needs dedicated individuals

receive 54 hours of exceptional training in communication and problem-solving. In return, spend four hours a week answering our crisis lines. You will have the satisfaction of directly serving your community with a dynamic group of individuals. To be a part of our September training, please call 586-2888 or send a SASE to: Crisis Line Volunteer, PO Box 2463, Olympia, WA 98507. **Applications must be received by September 10, 1999.**

Globalize This! Action Camp

September 16-22, 1999 Arlington, Washington

The Ruckus Society's "Globalize This!" Action Camp will be the most ambitious undertaking that Ruckus has ever coordinated. We plan to bring together 150 experienced activists from throughout the Pacific Northwest for an advanced strategic and tactical skill share. We aim to foster compelling direct action against the WTO on several important levels:

Large colorful protest involving political theater, pageantry, and celebration
Mass movement, civil disobedience
Technical blockades, and lockdowns
High profile climbing and banner hangs
High-tech "witnessing" involving radio and digital activists.

Individuals interested in attending the "Globalize This!" Action Camp can apply online at our website http://www.ruckus.org/wto_form.html or call The Ruckus Society at (510) 848-9565.

This event is co-sponsored by Rainforest Action Network

¡Presente!

A Radio Show hosted by Worker In Progress Wendy Ortiz: listen on Saturday, Sept. 4th and 18th from 6-8pm, and every other Saturday thereafter. ***¡Presente!*** *brings you interviews with*

Loggers and Tree Sitters Vote Plum Creek Timber Out of Town

by Rachel Goeke and Kim Marks

On Thursday, July 29th in Randle, Washington, locals and environmentalists packed the town firehall to discuss the threats posed by the I-90 Land Exchange. The Gifford Pinchot Task Force sponsored the meeting in order to create a safe place for the community to share diverse viewpoints on the swap. Over 150 loggers, mill workers, local business owners, and their families joined direct action activists, other environmentalists, and representatives of the Taidnapam native families in the forum.

The historic nature of the meeting was obvious to all present. At one point, a member of the audience called out for a vote. A tree-sitter on the panel was speaking at the time and asked those who wanted to keep the mountain from the company to raise their hands. All hands in the hall went up, except one, who later admitted to being an employee of Plum Creek. Even Harry Cody, the local Forest Service district ranger, sheepishly raised his hand with vocal encouragement from the crowd. When those hands went up, a local community stood together in saying "enough" to destruction of community resources by corporations.

Notably absent from the meeting were representatives from Plum Creek Timber. "The only empty seat in the house was the one reserved for Plum Creek," said Tim Ream of the Cascadia Defense Network. Several participants also expressed outrage that Senators Slade Gorton and Patty Murray sent no representatives to the meeting, unlike US Rep. Brian Baird and State Rep. DeBolt. Residents vowed to bring their message to each of the absentees.

If the trade goes through as currently planned, Plum Creek Timber would obtain two controversial areas within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest: Fossil Creek, near the town of Cougar, and Watch Mountain, directly behind the town of Randle. Many people at the Randle forum expressed concern about landslides and cited examples of slides originating in Plum Creek clearcuts near town. One resident brought videotape of people evacuating a home inundated by logging-induced floodwaters. "Plum Creek never compensated me one cent," said Elmer Day, a longtime resident of the area.

Visuals, A video recording of the entire meeting, live interviews from platforms 160' up in the trees, and photographs and video of exchange lands are available.

The following are updates of all known treesits in the U.S.

1) Washington, Watch Mountain, Gifford Pinchot National Forest. (started 7/97-active)

2) New York, South Bronx treesit. (started Spring '99-status not known)

3) Minnesota, Minnehaha tree village! Stop the Re-route, Contact 612-879-8929 (started Dec.'98-under attack)

4) Colorado, Vail treesit. Taken out in one day, contact 303-545-6203

5) California, Albion, J-road treesit. Gap clothing's giantredwoods. 707-937-4295 (started 5/99-cutdown)

6) California, Luna / Julia Butterfly Circle of Life Foundation 707-923-9552 (started 10/97-Active)

7) California, Gypsy Mountain tree village. North Coast Earth First! 707-825-6598 (started 9/98-trees not yet cut!)

8) California, Freshwater treesit http://www.upatree.net nate@upatree.net (started 10/98-Active)

9) Oregon, Right View timber sale's treesit, Umpqua BLM (started 7/99-Active) http://umpqua-watersheds.com

10) Oregon, Winberry tree village, Willamette National Forest, 700 year old cedars! contact 541-747-9116 (started 1/99-Active)

11) Oregon, Fall Creek tree village, Willamette National Forest Red Cloud Thunder!! http://www.ecoecho.org (started 4/98-Active)

12) Oregon, Eagle tree village, Willamette National Forest Cascadia Forest Alliance, contact 503-241-4879 (started 4/99-Active)

Anyone interested in helping out with the Watch Mountain tree sit or other activities please come to The Cascadia Defense Network & Olympia Earth First! weekly meetings on Sunday nights, 6pm at Traditions Cafe in downtown oly. Everyone is Welcome! Call 866-7344

Briefs & Announcements, cont.

women of color activists, upcoming activist calendar of events, social justice perspectives from women of color, local activist news, plus great music ranging from acid jazz to punk to polka to hip hop and more. If you would like to publicize your event on this show, please e-mail <wip@olywa.net> or leave a note in Box #3 at the KAOS studio at the Evergreen State College.

End Corporate Dominance Study Group

Are you tired of incremental reforms that always seem to be playing catch-up to the corporations? Frustrated that the Regulatory Circus is working all too well at sucking energy away from the underlying issues? Are you mad that any good laws that are made can be easily struck down by a Coca-Congress? Then it's time to step out of the non-profit rut and rethink the way we do things.

In this study group we will be examining the topics: "From the Railroad Land Grants to the WTO, the resistance to corporate power: Past, Present, and Future...." The purpose of this group is to educate ourselves so that we might then become educators. We'll discuss different aspects of corporate rights and "sovereignty", the populist movement and what led to their downfall, the gradual usurpation of the legal system by corporations, and an examination of the arenas of authority we still control.

The group will meet regularly every two weeks, and all are encouraged to attend. Bring passion, curiosity, and a dedication to effective, long term change. For info call Leon @ 866-7429 or email at culturejamming@hotmail.com

Stop-The-Bombing Vigils

The Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation (and many other folks) hold weekly vigils against the bombings and the sanctions against Iraq downtown across from Percival Landing (at the fountain) on **Fridays from 4:30-5:30pm**.

Bring a sign! Bring your voice! Bring some creativity!

Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition

WROC's planning and organizing meetings take place the **first Tuesday of each month from 5:30pm until 8pm at First United Methodist Church**, 5th and Boundary, downtown. WROC's support and information meeting is the third Tuesday of the month at Evergreen Vista Apartments, on the West Side of Olympia. Dinner and free childcare are provided at all meetings, and people can call 352-9716 for more info.

Tenants' Union

Come and learn your rights as a tenant on the **second Monday (Sept. 13th) of each month starting at 6pm in the downtown Olympia Library.** This is free public clinic. Also a meeting will follow and you will find out how to volunteer for the organization. For more information call 357-0615.

Dance O' Dance

Open invitation from "Dance O' Dance" to any age, any style dancers to appear LIVE on public-access television in Thurston county. This hour-long program by and for dancers is taped on the fourth Wednesday of each month and re-runs every Wednesday at 4pm & Friday at 10pm on channel 29. "Dance O' Dance" is in its fourth season on TCTV.

The upcoming Back-to-School show will be on September 22nd. Dancers should arrive at TCTV studio "A", 440 Yauger way, off Mud Bay, by 2PM for instructions, warm-ups, & refreshments. Contact the producer for more details: Justin B. Wright, 753-9665, or e-mail <justinb@writeme.com>

Peace & Justice Organizer Full-Time Job In Seattle

The Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) will hire an experienced Organizer to strengthen and support the efforts of FOR members and chapeter throughout Western Washington. The Organizer will also manage the Seattle office, recruit volunteers, and provide administrative support. The FOR is pacificist, mult-issue and broadly interfaith, with an 80-year history of principled, nonviolent action for peace and social justice. Flexible salary/benefits package based on $1,365/month for average 35 hours/week. Information and application packet: (206) 789-5565. **Completed applications due Sept. 20.** Start approximately Dec. 1. Local information source is Glen Anderson, 491-9093.

Bread and Roses Community Members Wanted

We are 4 (and 3 cats) living in a Catholic Worker, intentional community that works with homeless folks (however we are of varying spiritual beliefs). We run a shelter, soup kitchen and family center. Decisions are based on consensus, non-violent actions and social justice.

Our Mission:

Bread and Roses is a cooperative, compassionate, intentional community striving to live by the Catholic Worker philosophy of hospitality. We do this by providing, and helping others to provide, the basic human needs of food, shelter, and dignity to those who lack these.

We strive to be a role model for society in which we:

- individually take personal responsibility to serve others
- collectively establish non-violent and socially just relationships
- individually and collectively nurture growth of and develop on another in personhood

We are looking for someone who is dedicated to working with people in crisis situations, and with diverse groups of people. This includes children and people of varying ethnicities, sexual preferences and religious/spiritual beliefs. PEOPLE OF COLOR ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY! Bilingual a plus. We offer free room and a living stipend. Queer friendly. Vegetarian/Vegan diets welcome.

Contact us at:
Bread and Roses
1320 8th AVE SE
Olympia, WA 98501
(360)754-4085

Seeking Racial Justice Program Director

The Western States Center is looking for an experienced community organizer and trainer to serve as co-director of our field programs and to lead the development and implementation of a new racial justice program.

Western States Center is a dynamic research, training and organizing institute that advances economic, social and environmental justice in the West. The Center provides leadership and organizational development training and support; promotes community organizing; builds electoral skills and broad-based public interest coalitions; and works to support anti-racist efforts and to blunt right-wing "wedge issue" campaigns.

Based in Portland, Oregon, Western States Center works with hundreds of activists, community organizations, constituency groups and progressive elected officials in the eight-state region of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada and Utah. Our mission is to help build a powerful justice movement in the West that is multi-issue, multi-racial and multi-constituency.

We are looking for an experienced organizer who will join our other co-directors in leading the work of the field team, with special responsibility for continuing design and implementation of a new racial justice program. Salary & Benefits Salary range is $36,000 to $38,000, depending on experience.

To Apply: Send a cover letter detailing your strengths in community organizing, work within communities of color, and your interest in the position. Include your resume and three professional references to: Dan Petegorsky, Western States Center, PO Box 40305, Portland, OR. 97240, (503) 228-8866, or email: danp@wscpdx.org.

The deadline for receipt of applications is September 15, 1999.

Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.

Contact WIP for the complete announcement at wip@olywa.net or 705-2726.

Candidate Info Wanted

Works In Progress is planning to do a spread on the voting records of those Olympia Council Members who are seeking re-election this fall.

I am interested in any issues which you or your organization has followed and what the position of Stan Biles, Mark Foutch or Laura Ware is/was concerning it. Include a brief explanation of the issue. There really is no limit to what the issue could be about, and WIP will make every attempt to include all information you may supply. Also, let me know if you or your group has or will endorse these candidates.

My goal is to create a Game Card for each with their likeness on the front and their "stats" on the back. WIP will print these in the October issue along with an article exploring in-depth the issues listed on the backs of the cards.

Information is needed by September 15th on these candidates or any of the other folks that will be running in opposition to them.

Thanks, Pat Tassoni
P.O. Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
360/705-2726 or wip@olywa.net

Get your very own poster!

Everyone Deserves a Fair Trial

Free Mumia Abu-Jamal

These are *the* authentic posters previously printed in the pages of *Works In Progress.*

* 11 x17 for *Mumia*
* 22 x 34 for *No War*

=Act now and get a 11x17 size *Stop The Sanctions on Iraq* poster absolutely free with purchase of *No War*

Send $1 for one or $1.50 for both to :

WIP PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507

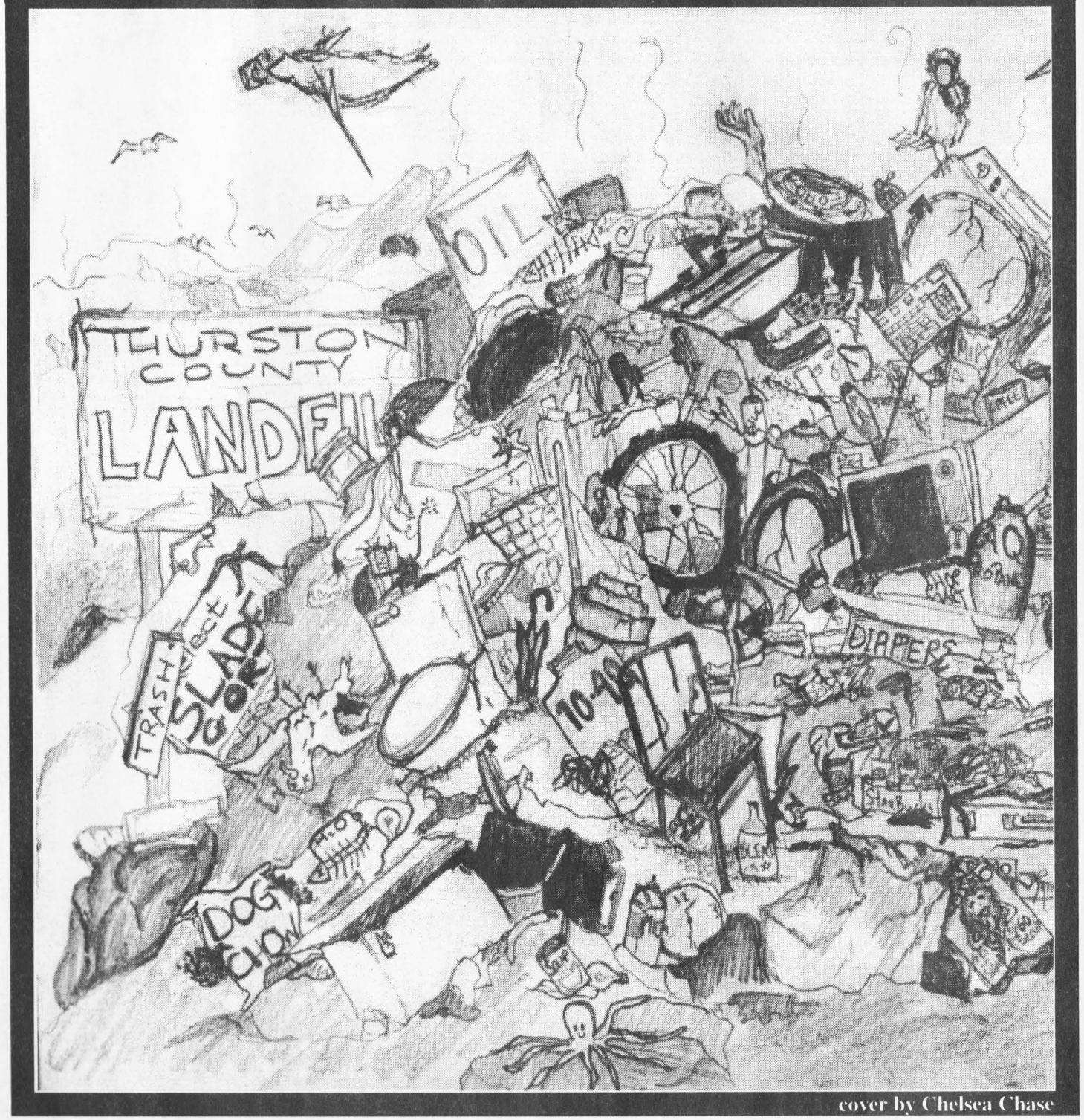
(Sorry no COD's. Allow one week for delivery)

Get yours today!

NO WAR

WORKS IN PROGRESS

SEPTEMBER 1999 THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION FREE



cover by Chelsea Chase

1 Labor Day Event & County Landfill Full! + Olympians Against The Death Penalty

4 Along The Color Line Green Party & Blacks

6 Crossing The Line Activist Emeliana Cruz

10 Pacifica/KPFA Community Radio?

12 WTO News

17 Prison Interest Page

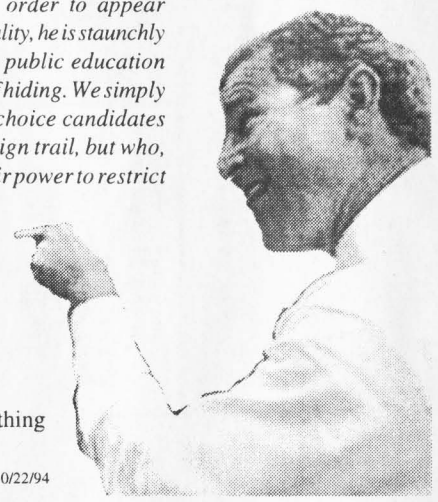
Works In Progress
PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507

Exposing Bush on Abortion

by N.A.R.A.L.

The 2000 presidential campaign has begun and the stakes are high. The next President will likely nominate justices to the Supreme Court and the House and Senate may still be controlled by anti-choice majorities, making the presidency the last line of defense in support of Roe v. Wade. GOP frontrunner George W. Bush has adopted a strategy of evasion on choice in order to appear moderate to America's electorate. In reality, he is staunchly anti-choice. NARAL has launched a public education campaign to bring his real views out of hiding. We simply cannot afford to be taken in by anti-choice candidates who hide their position on the campaign trail, but who, once elected, will do everything in their power to restrict abortion.

President Kate Michelman



George W. Bush Statements on Choice

"I do not like abortions. I will do everything in my power to restrict abortions."
The Dallas Morning News, 10/22/94

"America is not ready to overturn Roe v. Wade because America's hearts are not right."
The Associated Press, 3/8/99

"I think the Republican party ought to maintain its pro-life tenor." Exploratory Committee Announcement, 3/7/99

"There are a lot of Americans who don't view the abortion issue as a matter of life. I do. That's one reason why I'm a pro-life person." The Associated Press, 3/8/99

"Does that mean, if it were up to him, that all abortions would be constitutionally banned? Yes, replied the governor, except for circumstances threatening the life of the mother, rape or incest. That applies to all three trimesters? 'Right,' he said." The Associated Press, 3/8/99

George W. Bush Position on Choice

- Supports a constitutional amendment to ban abortion.
- Opposes abortion except in cases of rape, incest or when the woman's life is endangered.
- Supports laws requiring parental consent before a minor can obtain an abortion.
- Supports unnecessary waiting periods before a woman can obtain an abortion.
- Has signed 18 anti-choice bills as Governor of Texas.

Bush has said he wants to reduce abortion. Yet, as Governor, he has offered no leadership toward this end. He has done nothing to address the causes of unintended pregnancy; he has only offered restrictions on access to abortion for women already facing crisis pregnancies.

With the end of the 1999 Texas State Legislative session, Bush will have signed into law 16 separate anti-choice measures, including:

- Texas' first parental involvement law;
- Texas' first waiting period;
- onerous regulations that single out abortion clinics for mandatory government oversight and control;
- a law prohibiting family planning funding for organizations that offer abortion services;
- a law prohibiting publicly funded attorneys from assisting poor women in exercising their constitutional right to choose; and
- a law prohibiting family planning funding to dispense prescription contraceptives to minors without parental consent.

Bush has offered no preventative policy initiatives to reduce unintended pregnancy and the need for abortion-no expansion of family planning funding and services, no insurance coverage of contraceptives, and no comprehensive sexuality education program. In short, George W. Bush offers no leadership that would achieve the goal he set for himself.